

Arc 3: The Crystal Monster

Chapter 21: Rain and the Shougi board

Two weeks after returning from the capital. It's raining outside. It began 3 days ago and hasn't let up yet. It seems that this world also has something like a rainy season also.

Until the rain stops, work from the guild is suspended. With that said, I'm studying magic. Well, the book I bought from the capital was just the non-attribute magic book that I it looked like I could pick spells up from.

About 500 pages... I've only read about 1/3 of the entire book but, there were a grand total of 4 that seemed to be of any use. Each page held about 50 spells so there were about 25000 spells in all... So, sooner or later there would be about 4 out of every 25000~ about 1/6250th ... huh?

What I picked up were:

Magic effect given to material items 「Enchantment」,
Paralyze a target and make them immobile 「Paralyze」,
Change the shape of mineral and wood products 「Modeling」,
Search for identified subjects 「Search」,

these 4.

Among these 「modeling」 and 「search」 were fairly helpful. Well, they're also somewhat inconvenient as we.

「Modeling」 takes the material you have and reforms it into the image you have in your mind. In addition to taking a considerable amount of time (it's not something that can be done in an instant), if you don't have a firm image in your mind it'll turn into something strange.

As a test, I made a Shougi board (Japanese chess) but, there was one row too many, and grid squares were too big and the lines had

bulges in them.

A detailed image was considerably difficult to hold. It was much easier to make one by looking at an image of the real thing, so I brought up the image of a Shougi board on my smartphone and completed the board while looking at the image.

「Search」 was something that was useful for acquiring the location of lost items, or so I thought. Actually this magic was able to search more broadly.

I thought that this world had no vanilla, but I did a test search in the market and quickly found it.

It wasn't the vanilla that I know but 「Koko」 as it was called, had the unusual shape of a petite tomato. However, it looked and smelled just like the real thing, so it was a good enough alternative. (tln: Pronounced like cocoa)

Even though the name and shape were different, the thing I determined to be 「Vanilla」 resulted in a hit it seemed. It's really broad.

But, this was also a fault as well as the narrow useful range. About 50-meters in radius from the central point. It wasn't really something that could be used to search for another person.

「I'm hungry.....」

When looking at the time it was well after lunch, no wonder.

I put away the book, looked the hotel room, and went down stairs. In the dining room were Doran and the 『Weapon shop Kumachi』's owner, Bararu were sitting, facing each other. Between the two was that square-grid board made of wood.

「Shougi again?」

「Yep」

With his line of sight nailed to the board, without looking replied Doran, as I smiled in amazement.

The Shougi board was only something I made for the “modeling” test, but the one with the most interest in it was the inn's Doran-san. After explaining the rules, he was perfectly addicted to it and tried to rope anyone he could into a game. Bararu was just as addicted and whenever they had any free time the tiles would be snapping away. Well, honestly Bararu-san's addiction saved me. Until he came

along, with no other opponent to play, I was made to play countless times.

Even though I knew the rules I wasn't very good at it. It wasn't something that I really wanted to do. In the beginning I could win, but right now I'm no match for Doran. Because it's something you like you naturally get good at it, is something that's often said.

Asking Mika who was in the kitchen for some lunch. Not wanting to interrupt the two as they played sat a little bit away from them.

「Bararu, is the shop ok?」

「In this rain there won't be hardly any visitors. I left things to the wife. Anyways, Touya-dono, could make another Shougi set?」

「Eh? I already gave a set to you didn't I?」

Wanting to practice at home, made another set and gave it to Bararu the other day and had just handed it over.

「Shimon from the Item's shop said he wanted one. Please」

「Well, it's ok but...」

Someone that was better suited should make one, or so I thought, it takes quite a while to actually make a proper board.

「Ah, thanks. With this,」

「Check」

「Nu!?!」

Doran was folding his arms glaring at the board after he'd said that, then Bararu folded his arms as well and glared at the board. They're really addicted. I didn't think it would be like this.

「Here you go~. Hey you two should give it a rest.」

「Sorry. Only these guys right.」

With an imploring face, Doran looked at Mika. Well, if it wasn't raining, these two wouldn't spend the entire afternoon playing. Using the rain as an excuse was another way to look at it.

What Mika had brought for lunch was Mountain herb pasta, tomato soup, and a pair of sliced apples.

「Speaking of which, Mika, do you know where the others are?」

「Lindsey is in her room I think, Elsie and Yae went out.」

「In this rain?」

「They went to Parent to buy a brand new cake.」

Oh, that huh? After finding the vanilla after, I talked to Aeru and made the Vanilla roll cake.

Well, I taught them how to make it and told them the recipe, but I basically watched. But, it was still delicious. I got carried away and had them make the Strawberry roll cake too.

When Elsie found out about, she wanted to know why I didn't bring any home, and grabbed my neck. How unreasonable.

The new cake was going on sale today. ...Even still, they didn't have to go out in this rain.

The attachment to sweets is scary.

「I'm home, Uwa- I got wet-」

「I'm home degozaru.」

Otto, speaking of the devil the two came right through the door. Closing their umbrellas and leaning them against the entrance.

This world doesn't have any vinyl umbrellas. It has the shape of an umbrella but they're basically made of cloth. Even still they were soaked in tree resin making them water-repellent.

「Welcome home. Did you buy it?」

「Perfectly. Thanks to the rain there were actually fewer people.」

Elsie lifted up and show the bag. What a nice smile, really.

「It was delicious degozaru」

「Ne~」

You ate some already? Just how many were there?

「Here, this is Mika's.」

「Thanks. I'll pay for it later.」

Elsie pulled out 4 white boxes from the bag and placed one in Mika's hand. Mika shrewdly asked

「What about the rest?」

「One if for Lindsey, one more is for us, the last one is to be delivered to the Duke」

「Eh? Me?」

Speaking of, are you girls going to heat more!?

「Who else other than you can go to the Capital in this rain? Isn't it common sense to give something to those that help you?」

You guys should come too, is what I wanted to say but refusal was scary. What is that—?

There's no helping it, might as well go. Since it's food it's something that should be eaten as soon as possible.

And, that's right, last time I went to the Capital, the duke showed great interest in Shougi. I should bring a set as a gift.

After telling Doran in advance, I used some of the scrap that was piling up in the back. Using 「modeling」 I made two sets of both Shougi boards and pieces. I've gotten used to making them after making them so many times.

I completed them in about 10 minutes. I tentatively checked them. Yep, they're alright. One time I made one too many rooks and bishops before.

「Well, I'll be back.」

Taking an umbrella, to use “Gate” I returned to the backyard. So that it would attract as little attention as possible.

The exit should be...in the shadow of the mansion's gate is fine?

「Gate」

「Delicious! This is Delicious!」

「That's disgraceful, Sue. But, it's really delicious. This roll cake.」

Madame Ellen and Sue were overjoyed to eat the roll cake. Bringing it was effective. The duke also ate it noisily.

「Well, I could eat this all the time, I'm envious of the people in Leaflet. If I could use “Gate” like you I would go buy it every day.」

「If you would like, I can tell your chef the recipe and how to make it. It's not really a secret.」

「Really, Touya?! Mother, we can eat this every day!」

The one that reacted most strongly was Sue. Oi, you're drooling, daughter of the duke.

「Oh Sue. If you were to eat this every day you would get fat. Eat it only every other day.」

Laughing pleasantly at the duchess's comeback. Every other day shouldn't change much. But, if when I come back and Sue was really fat, then I'd feel a *little* guilty...

「And, that's the Shougi that you mentioned before?」

「Yes. This a two player game, therefore would you like to play?」

I set the board and pieces in front of the duke and set up my pieces up on the board.

「Father! Me too!」

「Well, wait a moment. I'm going first.」

The duke imitated me and set up his pieces. Ah, the rook and bishop go are backwards.

「First, the movement of the pieces. This is called a 「Pawn」, it's something like a solder. It can move forward only one space, but when it enters the opponents position——」

「Fumu...」

The duke learned the movements of the pieces one after the other. He's learning pretty quickly. If it's like this then he'll improve in no time.

But, I didn't have time to regret that.....

「One more game! Just one more game! The next one will be the last!」

I already heard that line..... In the end, the Duke was just as addicted as Doran, challenging me to endless games. It's already night time you know..... Sue, who had gotten tired of waiting, had fallen asleep on the sofa.

I had already thought this but, this world has very few amusements. So I get the impression that it would be like this.

「This is really interesting. We should get elder brother to try this!」

I was finally liberated at midnight The Duke said something

completely unexpected. I didn't think it would happen but, the King wouldn't get addicted would he? There will be no playing Shougi instead of politics...

Ah, the rain let up.

Chapter 22: The Headless Knight and the Ruins

「Yae, it went that way!」

「Understood!」

Using the crumbling rampart as a shield, that person disappeared from my view.

The metallic sound echoes against the walls. I turn and go around the rampart, and that person and Yae were fighting.

The knight had jet black armor and a large sinister sword. From that enormous body just oozes strength. The both feet were firmly planted on the ground, and swung both arms as they sprinted forward with the sword.

Well, there wasn't really any feeling of benevolence. The dark knight was already headless.

Dullahan. The knight who died a miserable death by the guillotine, was wandering aimlessly, looking for a suitable neck for himself. The real world and legend are different, but that was the subjugation target.

Yae and I formed a pincer attack against Dullahan. Yae saw the signal from me, confirming the light between my middle and index fingers, she quickly left from that place.

「Piercing light, Sacred Shining Spear, Shining Javelin」

From the finger tips shot a spear of dazzling light straight at Dullahan. The spear shot through the left shoulder and the arm was torn off.

However, blood doesn't pour from the wound like a human wound would. Instead of blood, a black miasma drifted out. The remaining right arm turned in my direction and lowered it.

At that moment, a figure jumps from the shadows straight at the headless knight with fists flying. Without hesitation the shadow then delivered a sharp kick which made it explode.

「Elsie! What about the wolves!?!」

「I was able to finish it somehow! There were almost 20 of them, mou!」(TIn: Mou: cry of exasperation)

From a distance away Lindsey comes running up. Ok, from here is the real show.

Elsie, unexpected an attack, Dullahan aims at her neck with that large sword in an instant and swings down. Elsie squats down, evades it and rolls repeatedly toward me.

「Flames come forth, fireball of purgatory, Fireball」

The fireball shot back behind Lindsey toward and hits Dullahan. Yae's blade swings and prevents the sword from coming down.

「It's stubborn! It'll be bad if this becomes a protracted struggle.」

Unlike them, if we were to be hit by that huge sword even once, it would probably be instant death, or an arm at best.

Dullahan had already lost his life, a corpse, in other words an undead. Undead are weak toward the Light attribute. Lindsey can use the light attribute but not to a strong degree. I guess I'll have to do it.... I'll go with that.

「Lindsey! Use Ice magic and stop his feet. A few seconds is ok」

「Eh? I-I understand!」

Hearing that, Yae and Elsie begin to move. Attracting Dullahan's attention, Lindsey and I work together. Understand, our team work is something else.

「Ice entangle, spell of freezing, Ice Bind」

Lindsey's magic activated, Dullahan's feet froze in no time. As to escape from the spell the ice begins to crack as the headless knight strains his legs to get out of the ice, little by little beginning to break away. As if I'll let you.

「Multiply!」

「My non-attribute activates. Around me, in the air, four magic formations appear. Next I recite a light attribute spell.

「Piercing light, sacred shining spear, Shining Javelin」

Immediately after, four spears of light appear from the formations and stormed out. All the spears flew directly at Dullahan. A non-attribute magic that enables multiple copies of the same spell to activate simultaneously. That is 「Multiply」

The headless knight had no means of escaping and took the full brunt of the attack of the spears of light; Lindsey's ice magic would not allow it.

Dullahan lost his right arm, his torso, and his left leg. Then he lost his chest and fell slowly.

The jet-black miasma oozed out of the now tattered armor, and scattered in the wind.

The headless knight moved no more.

「It's finished isn't it」

「I'm tired-degozaru」

Elsie mutters in relief, Yae squats down on the ground. It's no wonder. They had to evade most of the attacks continuously, those girls were always Dullahan's opponents.

「The large group of wolves was a miscalculation. That was dangerous...」

「Lindsey pats her chest as she lowers herself to the ground.

After a few months we had raised our guild rank to green. Black>Purple>Green>Blue>Red>Silver>Gold our rank was third from the bottom. With this we were officially independent adventurers.

Immediately we took a Green request, once in a while we should take a request in a different town, Elsie had proposed.

After going to the Guild headquarters in the Capital, we took on a Green request, among them was one for the subjugation of the demon. That was this request.

The ruins were originally the Capital from 1000 years ago. The king at that time threw this area away it seems. The previous king had decided to move to a new area and that is where the Capital is currently. Transfer of the Capital, as it were.

Although it isn't known why, right now the ramparts were full of

holes, the paving stones and buildings were barely visible, the castle itself was completely broken down, just columns remained. It was now literally ruins.

Demon and demon beasts come and try to settle down in the ruins, then someone makes a request to subjugate it. However afterwards it repeats again. It appears to be a cycle of completion.

If a demon comes to settle one after another then before long there will be a crowds of them. Regular subjugation is required.

「But, even if this is the former capital, there isn't anything here.....」

Looking around in the vicinity there was a crumbling wall, wall, wall. Here on a hill, were it was a good position to command from above, the castle was built here. Did the Duke and Sue's ancestors also live here?

However, after transferring the capital, why was this place abandoned? Was it like Romance of the Three Kingdoms where the capital was forcibly transferred and the castle and private homes were burned?

「It might be interesting if the King's hidden treasure was here」

「No, that's not the case. It would be different if the country was destroyed, but because the capital was only transferred, all the treasure was moved as well~degozaru.」

「I know, I know. I just wanted to say it.」

Yae rejected what Elsie had said out loud. Treasure huh?

In my world there were things like Tokugawa burial money and Takeda burial money but, there might be something like that here as well. It's not something I dislike either. Treasure hunting is a man's romance.

Suddenly, I thought of something. I could practice that magic here.

「Search: Treasure」

Might as well use the Search magic. There might be something that I recognize as treasure here..... Yea, nothing. Obviously right?

「Did you use 「Search」!? D-did you find anything?」

「At least there is no treasure near here.」

Replying to the rapt with anticipation Elsie the search results.

「I see.....Too bad」

「Bu, but, Toyua that's just treasure that you recognize, there still might be something of value around.」

Ah, the younger sister also understands the romance of treasure hunting it seems. As expected of twins.

Certainly as Lindsey says, for example, there might be a painting worth a lot. But, to me it might only look like 「something with scribbles on it」that be 「something of value」. Even if something is retrieved it's not shown. It depends on the values of the user. If I were to know the value of a painting then something might react.

That's certainly a valid argument. 「Riches」 meaning jewels, gold, a crown, large or small coins, was that kind of image. Un, that would mean.....

「Search: Historical Relic」

「Something of historical value」 should catch something right? Ah, but if I don't know about something like that then it would be useless.....
Huh?

「.....I found something」

It was there, something of historical value. The ruins themselves responded but there was something else beyond that. Sharpening the senses. Yea, I certainly felt it.

「Wh, where is it~degozaru!?!」

「.....It's this way. It feels like it's over here. Its big, what is this?」

From within the ruins the feeling flows. I led while the others followed behind, before long there was pile of rubble. Oh?

「Underneath? Under the pile of rubble?」

How am I going to move this how many ton pile of rubble? While I am at a loss, Lindsey moved out in front.

「Flames burst forth, Explosion of Crimson, Explosion」

With an immense explosive noise, the columns and pebbles were

blown away. Wai- isn't that going overboard, Lindsey!?

「.....It's finished」

I who looked amazed, looked from Lindsey to the spot where the pile of rubble was. What is this, this enthusiasm?

Standing in the spot where the pile of rubble once was, the strong feeling further intensified. Underneath.....?

Under my feet on the stone pavement there isn't.....n? What is this? I moved a stone with my foot and saw something underneath. I called everyone over and we cleaned it all off. What was underneath was what looked like a 2 tatami wide iron mat. In this place...

Combining our strength we opened it. I don't know why but it doesn't seem to be rusted, and opens quite easily. Could it be that it isn't iron at all?

And below that, there was a set of stairs that leads further underground, we were eerily invited.....

Chapter 23: The Underground Ruins and the Crystal Demon

「Light come forth, Small Illumination, Light」

In the air above Lindsey's head appeared a small light. With a firm step on the stairs we begin to descend underground.

The stairs drew in a gradual spiral angle, just how far is this thing going to go? While continuing forward it felt as if we were walking closer to the bowels of hell, such foolish uneasiness sprang up.

After descending the long flight of stairs, there was a wide stonework passage way.

Pointing straight ahead, what lay ahead was so dark nothing could be seen. There was a damp moist smell that caused an indescribably eerie mood.

「Som-, something, it feels bad, a ghost might even appear.」

「What are you saying Elsie!? Surely, gh- ghosts won't come out~degozaru!Right? 」

Yae overreacts to what Elsie muttered quietly. I don't really care but can you girls please stop pulling on my coat ... it's making it hard to walk...

Lindsey walks voluntarily ahead through the passage. You've got some guts.

The light from Lindsey ahead lights the passage. Next we follow and gradually advance through the next passage that gradually rises and comes out into a large hall.

「What is this...?」

Drawn on the furthest wall ahead, there seemed to be characters or something. Approximately 4 meters high and 10 meters in length, there seemed to be continuous lines of writing.

As I drew nearer, rather than characters they seemed closer to

pictographs. Something in the range of Inca or Aztec writing.

「Lindsey...can you read what's written here?」

「No... not at all. Ancient magic language...doesn't seem to be this.」

Lindsey while answering my question doesn't look at me, but stares at the wall absentmindedly.

This certainly classifies as a historical relic. Even an amateur like me can understand that. But, if you were to ask me if this was treasure, I would honestly say that it was something else. "Search" would have still shown this as a result.

Oh that's right, I should at least take a picture. I setup the smartphone, pushed the picture button on the camera app and a brilliant flash of light appeared.

「U!? What was that!?!」

The sudden flash of light startled Yae and the others. Showing them that it was alright by showing them my smartphone, they breathed a sigh of relief. The girls are gradually becoming accustomed to my eccentric behavior. Oh wait, I shouldn't say things like eccentric behavior about myself.

I took pictures of all the paintings but why is something like this in a place like this?

「Hey, wait! Everyone come over here for a moment!」

Elsie suddenly raises her voice. On the right side of the hall she was pointing to a certain part of the wall.

「Someone buried something here」

In the wall, there was a brownish transparent diamond stone just in our line of vision that was imbedded. It was approximately 2-centimeters in diameter. A jewel, it seemed to be slightly dirty.

「This is... a demon stone. This is the earth attribute demon stone. If you pour in some magic something might happen.」

「Something... like a trap?」

「I can't say it isn't something like that... but something like this wouldn't be a trap normally it's unthinkable」

I can nod at Lindsey's explanation but... what is it, this unease? Because there is a switch I want to push it. With that feeling it might not be a trap... I might just be over thinking it.

「Well then Touya, apply some magic.」

「What me!?!」

With Elsie's nonchalant comment, I spun around and looked. Even though it might be a trap!?

「I mean Touya is the only one with the earth attribute right?」

Muu, if I remember correctly, Lindsey has fire and water, and light, Elsie has non-attribute, Yae doesn't have any attribute. And I have all attributes. Oh well, it can't be helped.....

「Why is everyone so far away?」

「「「Well, just in case」」」

Everyone takes a distance from me, trying to laugh it away while staring intently. After sighing once, I apply magic to the demon stone.

Zuzuzuzuzu.....the sounds of the ground that had begun to move, all the walls in front of me became sand and opened a hole. It was a pretty flashy door opening.

「What is this?」

The walls disappear and we look inside. There seemed to be an object covered with dust and sand in the center of the room.

What would be something appropriate to say...? The first image I saw was an insect. A cricket. It looked close to that... From the almond shaped body, that looked like it could fly, sprouted 6 long slender legs. Several had already been broken.

It was approximately the size of a light car. Imagine a dead cricket with its arms and legs missing.

But, the form was machine-like, with a simple streamlined structure, rather than a living thing.

「What is that thing? Is some kind of image?」

Elsie looked at it from various angles. Looking closely at it, looking inside the head there was what looked like a transparent baseball sized red object.

With dust and sand on the surface, the mysterious object was half transparent... was it glass? It can't really see through the gloom.....
n?

「Lindsey...How much longer can you maintain the light magic?」

「Eh? I'm certainly not very good with light magic but... I can keep it going for about 2 hours.」

Puffing her cheeks in protest, cocks her head and looks at the light ball that's suspended in the air.

「Huh? The light seems to be getting weaker it seems...」

「It's not "it seems." It's certainly weakened. This is.....」

「Touya-dono!」

Glancing back at Yae who shouted, in the head of the cricket, the red ball began to shine. The cricket's body begins to vibrate a little.

「Touya-san! It's absorbing the light magic!」

That's the reason the light magic was weakening! The ball quickly begins to shine and the cricket's body begins to move. Could it be... this thing, it's alive!? The magic is being absorbed and it's starting to move!?

Kiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiin!

Kiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiin!

Kiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiin!

「Ugh...this is...!」

My ears started to ring from the shrill noise. The sound impacted all the walls around the room. It was like an electric shock to the body. The pinging was causing the walls to begin to crack. This is bad! At this rate we're going to be buried alive!

「Gate!」

As the gate appeared, everyone ran through the gate one after the

other above ground. I was the last to enter the gate just as the cricket stood up. It was charging at me at a terrifying speed. It was only 5 meters away from me, it was like a spear, and was headed right at me.

I fell out of the gate and landed on the ground. I immediately closed the gate and the ruins on the ground extended in my presence. It seems to have been buried alive in the end.

「What was that?」

「That demon, I've never seen anything like it degozaru!」

Elsie and Yae looked at the entrance to the underground, still tense while talking about the underground looked around, gogogogogo... the earth rumbled and a crack appeared.

From the interior came the sounds of roaring and a cloud of dust appeared. Perhaps the hall in the underground caved in it seems. That cricket demon seems to have been buried, or should have been.

Everyone held their breath, silence ruled the vicinity.

...Kiiiiin...

That sound...could it be...

Kiiiiiiiiiiiiin...

It's coming...!

Kiiiiiiiiiiiiin!

Dokaa! And it broke through the ground and came out on top.

That almond type, 6 long slender legged creature. The crystal shines under the sun. This is what you would call a translucent living being, a crystal creature?

The cricket stretches its legs again, and runs sideways down the walls and directly at me. It cuts through the walls like a knife through tofu. What sharpness.

「Flame come forth, Red duet, Fire arrow!」

Lindsey sends a continuous stream of flaming arrows at the cricket. However, even without dodging the arrows, calmly accepts them.

The flame arrows were being sucked into the cricket and disappearing.

「It's absorbing the magic!？」

「Kuu...well then what about this!」

Yae draw's her sword and strikes at the head of the cricket. But what would have been a hit was merely a scratch.

「What hardness degozaru!」

Next, Elsie punched the cricket from the side. But it wasn't effective, it wasn't something that could damage it after all.

One of the cricket's feet took aim at Elsie. She dodged it before she was skewered.

「What should we do with this thing!？」

Magic is absorbed, blades don't cut it, what should I.....!Wait, if attack magic doesn't work directly then what about indirectly..... let's test that out.

「Slip!」

The moment I set the frictional properties on one of the cricket's feet to zero the result was immediate, that guy fell spectacularly. OK!

「Lindsey! Magic doesn't work directly, but does indirectly!」

「I see...I understand! Ice come forth, a huge lump of Ice, Ice Rock!」

Lindsey recites the ice magic. A huge mass of Ice appears over the head of the cricket, then falls just like that. The cricket is crushed. Though direct attack magic is absorbed, an object made from magic could not be absorbed.

「Kiii!」

Like the rust on the hinges of a rusted door, the cricket flinches. However with even with the objects invented by magic only damage it a little due to the hardness.

Facing the one who stopped it, Elsie jumps out of the way like avoiding a bullet.

「Boost... Open all!」

This non-attribute magic improves physical strength, “Boost” is used, with a best aimed kick to one of the long slender legs of the cricket with as much power as possible.

The next moment, with what sounded something like breaking glass, the leg was crushed.

There’s no way this thing can’t be wounded. If can be damaged even a little at a time, it’ll fall eventually!

「Ki...kiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiin!」

Suddenly, the cricket groans and screams, the red ball shines in it’s head. As if reacting to that, the leg that should have been crushed was restored, Hey, that’s a lie right.....

「It restored it」

In a moment of surprise, Elsie stops momentarily. In the moment that she stopped she was deeply pierced in her right shoulder.

「Oneechan!」

Elsie flies instantly backward away in escape. Blood streams profusely from the shoulder. Her shirt is stained and stains all the way down to her pants.

「Yae! Lindsey! Stall it!」

The two nod and Yae quickly attacked while Lindsey began to form another ice rock. While the cricket is focused on the 2 girls. I run up to Elsie and use recovery magic on her. The wound is gradually closed, and before long the blood is stopped.

「Thank you... I’m fine now...」

Like hell you’re fine. The wound might have been closed but the damage should still be there.

Capable of regeneration, magic absorption, abnormally strong hardness... how do we beat it...? Are there any weak points?

「Even if we break something it gets regenerated making this

hopeless.....!」

「Speaking of which...when we found that body it was already broken apart... So why....?」

If I remember correctly..... It absorbed Lindsey's magic and then it regenerated..... Even though it regenerated it still needed magic? Speaking of which, at that time the ball in the head started to shine. Could it be that the red ball in the head is the nucleus...?

「Elsie, come here...」

I told Elsie what I realized.

「Eh? You can do that kind of thing!？」

「I'm not sure. But it's worth trying」

「...Got it」

With a breath straightening up, I faced the cricket and concentrated magic on my grip and imagined its body. The body is transparent so look closely!

「Aport!」

In my hand the red crystal appeared. Good, it succeeded!

「Elsie!」

「Boost!」

I aimed and threw the ball, Elsie's strengthened fist came straight down on it. It got caught between Elsie's fist and the ground and shattered to pieces with a "Pakiin!"

「How about that!？」

After pulling out the nucleus it stops moving. Before long, it crumbles with a rattle. Reflecting with a glitter in the sun, the Crystal demon finally falls.

For a while, waiting for it to reproduce again, but it did not revive for a long, long time.

With the tension drained, I sit on the ground. The idea that I decided to try went well. Looking around closely Elsie and Yae were also sitting on the ground.

Lindsey took a splinter of the demon, she wanted to examine it.

「Could this be, this could be something that closely resembles demon stone...」

「Demon stone?」

「Demon stone's features are magic amplification, accumulation and discharge. This demon absorbed magic from someone else and used it to regenerate itself... no, could it be that was a defense ability... and then used it, I think. Absorption, accumulation, discharge... those are features that look like demon stone.」

Could it be that thing couldn't actually produce any magic itself? And because of that it stopped moving in the ruins? Nothing but a mystery.

「Is this something that we should report to the guild degozaru?」

「No, when taking the fact of the underground ruins and this being the former Capital into consideration, the government should be informed instead. Let's go and speak to the Duke」

I see. That would be best.

Let's immediately go to the duke's house.

「Gate」

「I see, the old Capital had those kinds of ruins...」

The Duke folded his arms and leaned back in his chair thinking about it. It was unfortunate but Sue and Ellen were both out. While sitting in the parlor, we explained the general outline.

「I understand. This could possibly have some relation to the royal family. The government will send out an investigation and investigate the area. Of course the demon as well.」

「Ah—... The underground ruins are probably destroyed, so examining those might be quite difficult....」

「What? Oh, I see....the writing on the wall was something that interested me but...」

The Duke looks down with a disappointed face. Did I do something bad...? No, it's not as if we destroyed those ruins.

「Oh, but I was able to take some photos of the wall painting. You might be able to do something with that.」

「Photo?」

On the smartphone camera app the photo was displayed to the Duke.

「What is this!?!」

「This is a non-attribute magic image recorder」

「Hou?... You're amazing as usual...」

With a little lie the duke was easily deceived. Sorry forgive me. The explanation is too confusing.

「If I can have some time I can make some copies and hand them over.」

「Please do. By chance, it's possible that this was recorded 1000 years before the capital was transferred.」

Ah, why is it that the country of the capital that was transferred doesn't even know why it happened. Usually this kind of thing is recorded by the country in some kind of record. Or could it be that the duke is saying that the reason the capital was transferred is in the wall painting. That something about the demon was written there.

We understand the weak point of that monster. If we were to fight it again we would probably win.

But, something bothers me. The old Capital was that in that condition that it probably wasn't the demon's doing.

With hazy feelings, we left the details with the Duke and departed the residence.

So I hope you enjoyed this arc, I think it's the best to date. What do you guys think of my writing style for Smartphone? Any suggestions, comments, endless praise etc etc write below. Thanks!

If I have more time I'll probably release chapters for the next arc.

Arc 4: Members of the Royal Family

Chapter 24: The Demi-human Country, and the Attempted Assassination of the King

After several days, I finished copying the wall painting of the underground ruins.

Using a useful non-attribute magic「Drawing」it transferred exactly what I saw to the paper, it was transcribed by magic. It was a copy machine.

I didn't use a pen and write it, the characters appeared on the surface, exactly as it would if it were a copier. While looking at the smartphone screen, it copied to the paper.

This magic is just good to me as if I'd gotten a printer from the outside. I tested this by printing out several cake recipes, I took them over to Aeru who was more than delighted. It's just for the materials I had to use "Search" to locate several times. It had calculated the weight using the 100 yen coin in my pocket as the base measurement. Hurry up and notice more quickly, Me.

Well then, should we go deliver it to the Capital? I thought about calling everyone together but the mood usually falls when going to see the Duke, so I decided to go by myself. Its times like these I feel the difference of the nobles. There weren't any nobles in my former world. No, strictly speaking there might have been some you know.

Gathering the copied documents, a "Gate" was opened.

I went through the door, and ended up in front of the Dukes house.

「Ah, excuse me」

The guard was surprised at my sudden appearance. Actually every time I come they're surprised to be honest. I wish they would get used to it, from the looks of it it's still going to be a while.

Huh?

The front gates are opening, a carriage is coming outside? Is the timing bad?

「Touya-dono!? I'm grateful! Please get in!」

「Eh? Wait...Eh!? What's going on!?」

The carriage door opened and came out, the Duke grabbed my arm and pulled me onto the carriage. What what!?

「Well, I didn't image that Touya-dono would be here at this moment...! God himself probably sent you. I'm very grateful.」

In his excitement while looking at me, the Duke raised his hands in prayer. I had certainly been sent here by god. But I don't think he would have sent me here like this. What in the heck happened?

「What exactly happened?」

I asked the Duke, who wiped the sweat of his brow, and opened his mouth in a strained voice.

「My elder brother has been poisoned」

.....What did he just say?

When the Duke says "elder brother" he means the King... right? Regicide as it were?

「Fortunately we were able to deal with it Early on and he is holding out. However...」

Squeezing both hands together, as if looking for an option in those hands, as his voice trembled. They tried to kill his elder brother, that's obviously something to worry about.

「Do you have any ideas about the criminal?」

「.....There is one person that I can think of. However, there isn't any proof. You remember don't you, when Suu was attacked? It's probably the same perpetrator is what I think.」

「But why the King? Do you think some other country tried to assassinate him...?」

「If it were that it would be more comprehensible...」

With a single sigh the Duke lifted his face. An unpleasant expression appeared on his face.

「Our Belfast Kingdom is surrounded by 3 countries. In the west is the Rifurisu Koukoku (meaning Empire), in the east is the Merisha Mountain range which beyond is the Regulus Teikoku (it also means Empire) and to the south is the Great Gau River, which borders the Misumido Kingdom. We've had a long relationship with the Rifurisu Empire for many years and have many friendly connections.」

Fumufumu.

「Since the war with the Teikoku from 20 years ago, there is a tentative non-aggression pact between us, honestly it's difficult to say that we're getting along amiably. It wouldn't be strange even if it invades again. And there's the Misumido Kingdom to the south, now that is an enigma.」

「Enigma?」

「In the middle of the war against the Teikoku 20 years ago, a newly founded nation arose. We made an alliance with this new country and the empire was restrained and we tried to create new trade with them. However, there are nobles who oppose that.」

「Why is that?」

If it wasn't known when the Teikoku was going to invade, then wouldn't it be prudent to simply have more allies?

「Misumido is a country of demi-humans. Many demi-humans live together, demi-humans rule the country. Those are reasons that the old nobles don't like.」

「...What is that?」

Because you don't like something, it makes it OK to obstruct the nation's best interests? Furthermore demi-humans aren't bad people. Some of them might be unwilling to listen but giving them 100 steps will make it easier to understand. Demi-humans properly understand things, I've met Alma who was a very good kid.

「Once the demi-humans were treated lower than animals, they were objects of contempt. They were thought of as a vile barbaric race. However, when our father's era came, laws regarding recognition were enacted. Those manners gradually went out of use. In fact, there are demi-humans that are walking normally around the castle, upright without any kind of discrimination. But, there are still those backward thinking old nobles that refuse to admit that are still around.」

「Discrimination is it?」

「That's right. Why should we have to ally with a vile demi-human's filthy country? Shouldn't we instead conquer them, and turn them into a vassal state? Elder brother can't do anything except obstruct them.」

I see. So the old nobles are pulling the strings this time. But is that really required to go that far?

Those were feelings that I had. To have your own King killed. Wouldn't the King's death cause you more problems?

「If my elder brother dies, the throne moves to Princess Yumina who is his only daughter. Perhaps, that noble wants their own son to marry the princess, and approach the family as a bridegroom. With that in mind they tried to kidnap Sue, then use that as material to blackmail with, the person they were trying to get to was not myself but probably my elder brother.」

If you value your niece's life, do not deal with Misumido. It's the princess of a country, the guard is probably pretty severe. Therefore, they target Sue instead. Then they try and push their luck and have their son be engaged to her instead. But what guilt they must feel.

If they were exposed even by mistake then it's a one way trip to the headman's ax. The historical drama of some villain's head suspended pops into my mind somehow.

「And? What exactly should I do?」

「I wish for you to cure my brother. Using the same magic you did with Ellen.」

The abnormal state recovery magic "Recovery." That huh? Certainly,

poisons and other afflictions can be removed. Did the Duke invite me with this in mind? I consented.

While doing so, the Duke's carriage crosses the drawbridge and reaches the King's castle at last.

I was hurriedly brought into the castle by the Duke, the red carpet was spread out and the all doors opened to meet us. The stairs expanded downward in a gentle curve to the right and left. In the middle was a gorgeous chandelier which glittering stars shined and the same glittering could be seen on the ceiling. Is that Demon stone light?

Running the long stairs with the Duke along came a single man as we were passing each other.

「Well well isn't it the His Highness the Duke, It's been a while since we've spoken.」(We meet again)

「.....Earl Balsa...!」

The Duke with a glance like a glare looked at the Earl who was right in front of us. The man had a thin neck, flashy clothing and was slightly overweight. He looked like a toad. A broad grin spread across his face and looked at us. (tln: it actually translates to "Earl baldy", but here he is using it as an insult so it translates into "toad" which fits him perfectly.)

「Please rest assured. The ones that threatened His Majesty's life have already been caught.」

「What did you say?」

「It was the ambassador from the Misumido Kingdom. It was the wine that the King drank. That wine was what the Misumido Kingdom ambassador had presented.」

「That's absurd.....」

The Duke was surprised by that fact, and it showed on his face that he didn't believe it. If that were to be true, both countries would be forced to ditch their relations. No war wouldn't be out of the question.

But, there's something not right. It's all too convenient.

「The ambassador is being restrained in another room. That demi-human did something that outrageous. We'll send Misumido back

their head.....」

「That won't happen! Everything is for elder brother to decide! We'll have the ambassador stay in that room for a little while only!」

「Is that so? For the demi-human to receive such an undeserving vote of confidence.... So shall it be. However, should anything happen to His Majesty, the other nobles won't be able to stop the public you know? They'll probably demand the same thing.」

Earl Balsa expressed a repulsive smile. It's this guy? The old noble who discriminates against demi-humans and opposes the King's policies? No, could he be the one that poisoned the King as well..... With one look at the Duke who was glaring at this toad, that deduction was not mistaken it seems. This bastard is the criminal.

「Well then with this. It seems it will be getting busy around here after this.」

The toad had said and was beginning to descend the long flight of stairs. It will become busy? Because the King dies? The toad sent the Duke off with a hand as the Duke's hand trembled as he grasped it. Alright, time for a little punishment for toadie.

「Slip」

The toad missed a step and fell mightily down the stairs. He didn't stop until he reached the bottom. He was then thrown on to the floor.

「Gukya!」

Before long the toad calmly got up, tottered and began to walk. The surrounding maids and knight guards were trembling trying to hold in their laughter.

Che. He didn't die. The Duke who'd heard my tongue click asked.

「You?」

I who remained silent raised my thumb and replied with a smile. The Duke gave an amazed expression and returned a similar smile thereafter.

Chapter 25: Detoxification and Posion Retrival

「Oops, we don't have time for this. We need to hurry!」

Once again running up the stairs, we landed in a long corridor. In front of the room the guardsmen, which were heavily armed, recognized the duke and moved out of the way. They bowed their heads reverently as they opened the big door behind them.

「Elder Brother!」

Inside the room that the Duke jumped into, light streamed into the room from a large picture window on the wall, the bed had a luxurious canopy attached. Everyone had looks of despair toward the man lying on the bed, who was most likely the king.

Next to the bed was, a young girl clutching the hand of the King that was lying there; in a chair was a woman fighting back tears, wearing a calming expression; an elderly person wearing a gray colored robe; the person with a golden wand, who's eyes were covered by jade green hair, who's shoulders shook in anger, was a woman; and a man with a splendid beard wearing a military uniform.

The duke walks briskly up to the elderly person in a gray robe beside the bed and calls.

「What is elder brother's condition?」

「I've tried every trick in the book but, I've never seen the symptoms of this poison before.....if it stays like this then.....」

The elderly person closed his eyes, and tilts his neck sideways. At that time, the king opens his mouth and with a hoarse voice,

「Elder Brother」

「My wife and daughter...I implore...you...Misumido...the alliance with the kingdom.....」

「Touya-dono! Please!」

As I ran up the person with the beard in the military uniform tried to stop me but was prevented by the duke.

The king looks at me with the eyes of a dead fish, “who are you?” asks with voiceless lips. The lips were dry and cracked and his face looked frail, it was indeed the face of death. If I don’t hurry up.

I concentrate magic in the palm of my hand and raise it over the king.

「Recovery」

A soft light flowed from the palm of my hand into the King. After a little while it subsided, the King’s breathing became calm and his complexion improved as well.

His eyes fluttered, then open and blink several times, then he sits up after a short while with great force.

「Father!」

「Dear!」

While the king was being clung to by the woman and girl, he open and clenched his own hand a few times.

「.....There’s nothing. It’s as if the suffering just a short while ago was a lie.」

「Your Majesty!」

The elderly person wearing gray robes took the king’s hand and measured his pulse, and looked into his eyes. This person is a doctor, oh I see.

「.....The very picture of health. Surely this kind of thing.....」

The family doctor stood apart with a blank surprise, the king turned his attention toward me.

「Al...Alfred. Who is this person?」

「This is Mochizuki Touya-dono who remedied my wife’s eyes. By chance, he was at my residence so I brought him with me. He is the one that saved your life.」

「...Ah—, hello. I’m Mochizuki Touya.」

I’m not sure what greeting would be appropriate so just imitated a

response. It might have been bad in front of the king.

「Oh that's right, Ellen's? You really saved me, you have my gratitude.」

The King returned an expression of gratitude, while I was still contemplating how I should respond; the bearded guy pounded on my back. Hey that hurts!

「Thanks for saving the king! You're Touya-dono right? I like you.」

Says the bearded old guy still beating my back. I said that hurts!

「General, let's leave it there. But, that non-attribute magic "Recovery." That's interesting indeed.」

The woman with the golden wand smiled while stopping the bearded old man. I'm saved.

「Elder brother, and what do you wish to do with the Misumido Kingdom's ambassador?」

「What about the ambassador?」

「The ambassador is being restrained by Earl Balsa as the mastermind in your assassination attempt. What shall we do?」

「That's absurd! If Misumido were to kill me what would they stand to gain? This is the work of someone else trying to obstruct me, that is the criminal.」

The King so declares. Meaning that toad is suspicious after all.

「However the fact is, the wine that was presented by the ambassador. At the scene there were many witnesses. As long as that suspicion doesn't clear up.....」

The bearded general explained to the king. Well, until we can't prove their innocence can we at least make it so they can move around?

「What kind of poison was used? That's something we don't know. It might be a special poison that demi-humans use. We should first examine that...」

The elderly family doctor muttered in a worried voice.

「For the time being, we should meet with the ambassador. Please call for them, General Leon.」

The bearded old guy scuttles out of the room.

The ambassador was probably used and then unjustly accused. Kill the meddling king, then use the ambassador as a scapegoat. Then use that as a means of dividing the two countries and start fighting... seems about right. It's completely comprehensible.

While the mediation was going on, I raised my voice. I was taken aback by the princess (I think her name is Princess Yumina) who was staring at my face.

Guessing her age, she was in the same age group as Sue, about 12 or 13. Just like Sue had the same blond hair, and large eyes, but if you looked closely the left eye and right eye were different color. The right is blue while the left is green. That thing called the "odd eye"? She had on a light, white dress. She was wearing a silver ornament on her head.

「Thank you for saving my father」

While saying this she bowed her head politely. She's a nice polite child isn't she? Not some selfish, stuck up princess.

「No, please don't worry about it. It is best that he is well isn't it?」

With her repeated thanks was a bit embarrassing, so I just smiled to deceive her. However, princess it's embarrassing... for you to keep looking at me like that. What is it?

「Um..... was there something else?」

It became impossible to ignore the passionate stare, asked while looking away. Before long, the princess's cheeks blushed slightly and she said

「.....Do you dislike younger ones?」(TIn: she's asking if he likes younger girls but he doesn't get it)

「What?」

I couldn't understand the meaning behind the question, and tilted my head. At that time, the door opened, following the bearded general, a demi-human, about 20 years old, entered the room. Huh? That

person?

「Olga Strand, I have come.」

Coming in front of the bed, kneeling on one knee, bowing there head was a demi-human woman. On that head were beast ears that stood up. At her waist was a long, bushy tail. She was a fox.

「I will ask in no uncertain terms. Did you come to this country with the intent of murder?」

「That is unthinkable! I would absolutely never poison His Majesty!」

「I would think not. You aren't the kind of person that would do that kind of thing. I believe you.」

The King asserted while smiling at the ambassador who expressed a great sigh of relief.

「But, the wine that was presented by you was poisoned is also true. What do you have to say about that?」

「Tha- that is.....」

At the words that came from the oneesan with the wand, the demi-human hung her head. There was no way for her to prove her innocence. But it didn't really feel like the woman with the wand was actually placing any blame, and what was needed to solve this problem was quite nearby.

「Can I say something?」

「Touya-dono?」

Hearing my voice, the surprised fox oneesan looked up. Ah, it's the oneesan from that time. When we were in the capital before we had helped the lost demi-human child, Alma's oneesan. Olga did she say it was?

「Are you already acquainted with the ambassador?」

「I got along well with her younger sister. It was only for a short time though. Putting that aside.」

I threw away the question from the Duke, with a gesture of throwing it in a box nearby, there was no response from anyone. Ku!

I asked something that had been bothering me for a while to the bearded general.

「Where did the King fall?」

「In the dining hall for our most important guests..... what about it?」

「Is the scene exactly as it was?」

「Ah? Oh, just as it was..... well, the wine that was taken for inspection but we still haven't found anything.....」

Which means, it hasn't been detected yet. It's probably that isn't it? That common trick. It's something that's not really a trick at all. The fact the wine wasn't poisoned was exposed right away. How negligent. However, should we confirm it anyway?

「May I be taken to that room? I might be able to find out the ambassador's innocence」

Although everyone looked at each other, the king gave his permission, and General Leon led me to that room.

The room was a large hall, it had a white brick fireplace; navy blue curtains on the wall that faced the garden; there was something that looked like a picture, high on the wall; on the ceiling was a luxurious, gorgeous chandelier. On the long table was a white table cloth, moreover silver candlesticks. The tableware on the food was just as they had left it.

The general brought out the wine that I asked for.

「Is this wine something unusual?」

「I don't really know but it seems so. From what the ambassador says it's from a certain village in Misumido, it's considerably valuable it seems.」

「I see」

Well, shall we confirm it?

「Search: Poison」

The retrieval magic was activated. Looking from the wine, to inside the room, to on top of the table. Yep, it's there after all. Well, someone would find out eventually but no servant could use retrieval magic like me.

Now, what should we do? We could go accuse them directly, but they might just say that they foresaw everything. If I were to fail it wouldn't end in being doubted, right?

「I have a general understanding. General, can you call everyone here. Oh, call Earl Balsa as well. I also have a small favor to ask.....」

「Favor?」

The general inclined his head in puzzlement while listening to my request. If there is no absolute proof, then we'll just get them to confess on their own.

Now then, let's put on a show.

Chapter 26: Solving the Mystery and Securing the Criminal

「You're Majesty! There's nothing wrong with you at all!？」

「Ou, Earl Balsa. As you can I'm perfectly fine. It seems I've worried you」

The toad said as he jumped into the large dining hall. The King answered with a “Look at me” kind of attitude.

「I...see. Hahaha, well well. There's nothing better.....」

While sweat was pouring from his face, he presented a cramped smile and rubbed his hands together. The king looked upon him coolly. Ah— even the king realized it. That this was the criminal. (Rubbing hands together means “unexpected guest”)

“Just when I thought it was all over, Touya-dono over here erased all the poison at once. Well, I was really lucky. It was a dangerous spot.”

Upon hearing the king's explanation the Earl glares intently at me full of hatred. Hey hey, that's way too obvious! There's no way someone would think that this isn't the culprit.

“So, Touya-dono. What did you intend when you brought all of us here?”

The woman with the jade green hair and golden wand, the court magician, Charlotte, asked.

The parties collected in the dining hall were, His Majesty the King, Princess Yumina, Queen Yuella, Duke Ortointe, General Leon, Charlotte, Dr Raul, Oglia, and Earl Balsa.

While having everyone stand, I began to address them all.

「As you all know, His Majesty the King was poisoned. The scene is this dining hall. Everything is just as it was when it happened,

although the food's gotten cold. The criminal of this attempted assassination of the king is...」

Opening my mouth while silence reigned.

「someone that is in our midst.」

I've always wanted to say that!

Instantly the mood changed, Olga's complexion changed, the fox ears stood straight up, "it's not me" was the look from her eyes. I already know that.

When Earl Balsa who was next to Olga looked at her pale face, he let out a frown.

Wow, what a "so far so good" face. While he was looking towards Olga he didn't realize that everyone else was looking at the toad with an "It's that guy isn't?" kind of expression. Everyone other than Olga realized that he was the criminal...

「First, bring me the poisoned wine.」

The general brought in the wine bottle and I took it in my hand.

「This is the wine that Olga presented, correct?」

「Certainly that is what I presented but, I didn't poison...!」

「Silence! You mere demi-human! Still feigning ignorance after all this, how shameless can you.....What!?」(tl;dr: Autocorrect want to change it to deli-human)

While the disgusting toad was verbally abusing Olga, he took a sideways glance, I who had the wine in my hand, drank a glass of it in one gulp.

I may be a minor but it's a different world anyway.

"Yep, it's great!"

Don! I set the bottle on the table. Honestly I didn't know if it was any good or not. I'm a minor after all!.

Looking around, everyone had their mouth wide open and was staring at me.

「To, Touya-dono!? Are you alright!?」

「I'm just fine, General. Or rather there was never any poison in this

wine to begin with.」

What do you mean by this? Was the question that everyone other than the Earl, who had sweat streaming down his face but otherwise looked normal, floated on their faces. He's starting to panic.

「Well then, what I'm taking out is a special premium rare wine. Made far to the east, this is the highest class of wine that I know of.」(yes it actually was written like that)

The wine prepared read “Boujorenbo” in hiragana on the label which meant “Cheap wine” I poured into a wine glass on the expensive table that no one was seated at.

「This wine will find the criminal.」

The wine glass, sitting under the chandelier, glittered and danced brilliantly. I parted it from the table, walking straight toward the people that were standing apart from it, and presented it to the General.

「Could you drink this please?」

The General held a doubtful glance but drank it just like that and drained the glass.

「How does it taste?」

「Mu! This is wonderful. I've never tasted anything like it! It's great! Would you like to try some Earl?」

Wow, that was so monotone. The general exclaimed “exactly as I directed” to the Earl.

「Ha? Haa, well then.....」

I placed before the Earl who had nodded his consent, the glass that was from the seat of honor “the place where the king sits” and began to pour wine into the glass. His complexion changed.

「I, **by all means**, want the impression of how this tastes from the Earl.」

「No, I.....!」

「Come come」

The Earl who had tried to draw back was caught and forcibly given the wine glass.

「Now, drink it in one gulp」

The Earl maintained a smile on his face, but he was sweating bullets, and wouldn't bring the glass to his lips.

「What's wrong, Earl. Aren't you going to drink it?」

「Ha, no, um.....!」

At the King's words, the Earl looked around restlessly, the hand that held the glass began to tremble. Oops we can't have the glass fall.

「.....Are you able to drink? Well it may be presumptuous of me but allow me to help you」

「Ha!? Mugu! Ukue!?」

I forcibly placed the glass up to the Earl's mouth and poured the wine into it. While choking on the wine, regardless of how much he struggled he drank it, which was a fact that was terrifying.

「U! Ua! Uaa! Sa- save me please! The poison! The poison is flowing! I'll die! I'll diiiiiiiiie!」

Holding his through the toad writhed and twisted on the floor. With a tortured expression flapped his arms around shaking and rolled around on the floor struggling.

What is it? If a person just believes strongly enough, this kind of thing will happen?

「Guuuu! Ku, it hurts! The poison! The poison!!! Sa- save me.....!」

「Ah— cut it out already. The glass I just used, that, was a brand new glass.」

「I'm dying..... what!?」

The Earl's expression turned blank and he stopped thrashing around. Then got up and rubbed his neck.

「.....Nothing happened」

「Well yeah of course not. It was only cheap wine. I apologize for forcing you to drink it. However」

I quietly brought attention to the heart of the matter.

「Why did you think that there was any poison in it?」

The Earl's face froze. That's right. This man was the exactly the kind of person who betrayed himself. Frightened of poison that wasn't there, then writhing from poison that he hadn't drunk. Someone that didn't know anything wouldn't have acted like that. With just that he fell so easily.

「.....What do you mean by that?」

The Duke asked me.

「The poison wasn't in the wine that Olga presented, but rather it was smeared on the King's glass.」

「On the glass...? Then it's no wonder that the wine didn't respond when we tested it for poison.」

「Because I practice a magic that can detect poison, I understood that immediately. The direct perpetrator was either the cook or the waiter in charge, or somewhere around there. After that there was only to find the wire-puller and the true culprit of the event, figuring out how to corner them but..... what a disappointment.」

Well, no matter how you looked at it, the perpetrator was this guy. Unable to make an excuse for himself, is what I thought, but for it to be solved this quickly is what I felt.

It was a common trick (although it's not really one at all). Even if it wasn't me someone would have figured it out immediately.

Well, I had always wanted to play the part of the detective, at least once.

The toad ran at full speed toward the door. What a sore loser. In the end, this man didn't have the ability to look ahead or behind. The so called "I am great!" fool that turns out to be a small fry villain. However, this idiot tried to kill the King, that crime is severe.

「Slip」

「No!」

Sute-n! The Earl fell with a crash and hit the back of his head on the floor.

Right to where was Olga standing, who was still holding a grudge, and exploded a well-placed kick in the stomach, with that he fell unconscious. Oou, that looked like it hurt.

I hope you enjoyed this little show. The next chapter will be exciting too, in a different way.

Yes, I will go back and re-edit the previous chapters later.

Chapter 27: Ancient Language, and the Explosive Statement

「According to the report from the General, the direct perpetrators were the head waiter and the food taster. A search of Earl Balsa's residence located the poison that was smeared on the glass, it was the same poison that had been used in the incident. Additionally, he personally admitted to the attempted kidnapping of Sue. Case closed.」

The Duke sits in a chair in the royal palace, looking rather pleased while talking.

Besides the Duke were, His Majesty the King, Princess Yumina and Charlotte were sitting around a table drinking tea while enjoying themselves.

「What became of the Earl?」

「In addition to the attempted assassination of the King, there were nothing but treasonous acts. He is being executed and his house is being dissolved along with forfeiture of all land and assets.」

Well it would normally be like that. I don't really feel any kind of guilt. He reaped what he sowed. There was no room for pity.

「And the Earl's family?」

「All members that were involved will be executed..... The rest of the relatives will all be stripped of their noble titles and exiled. Although he didn't have a wife or children, all his relatives discriminated against demi-humans, so it's just as well. With this, the people who stand opposed to my Elder Brother were so easily removed, I guess.」

The Duke spoke happily. Indeed, with the events that occurred, the other Nobles discriminating against the demi-humans were restrained.

「However, we are deeply in your debt as our benefactor that saved our life, is there anything you wish for?」

The king cut straight through to me, but at present there wasn't really anything I really needed.

「No please don't worry about it. I just happened to visit the Duke's house. It was just a stroke of luck for the King. Please think of it as such.」

It really wasn't that big of a deal. "Recovery" was something that came straight from God. I think I would receive divine punishment if I were to ask for a reward. ...N? Punishment would have to come from God wouldn't it? Please spare me the lightning.

「Touya-dono doesn't show the slightest amount of greed, as usual.」

The Duke smiles while returning his tea cup to the saucer on the table.

「If there is someone I know that is in trouble, isn't it normal to want help them? It's not really as if I'm looking to gain something that I help them. I help them because I want to. It's just that.」

Those were my honest feelings. Contrarily, if Earl Balsa were to ask for help, I don't know if I would want to help him or not. Because, I knew what kind of man the Duke was, because he was troubled that I lent my power to help out.

「You're truly a mysterious person. You can use the two no-attribute magic "Recovery" and "Slip", you're something else」

Charlotte smiled while looking at me. Being praised by the Court magician, made me feel ticklish.

「No, Touya-dono can also use other no-attribute magic as well. He also used "Gate" to come to the Capital. He also detected the poison, and made a Shougi board using no-attribute magic as well.」
「Eh?」

At the Duke's words Charlotte froze. Ah—..... I should probably be honest here.

「Um, yeah, well. If it's no-attribute magic then, I can use all of them. Probably.」

I never failed to acquire any of them. Ah, I failed to acquire “Aport” the first try. But, I acquired it none the less.

「All of them...!? If this is true....., that's completely unexpected! Wa- wait a moment please!」

Charlotte hurried out of the room in a panic.... Did I do something bad.....?

「You made the Shougi board? Al recommended that I try it but, that's really interesting! I'm completely addicted to it. But, how did you make it using magic?」

Ah, the King got addicted to it after all. The brothers are so a like.

I took a glass from the table and used “Modeling”. The shape of the glass began to change... after about 30 seconds, on the table stood a 10cm tall, stately-dignified figure of the King.

「As you can see, just like this.」

I handed the figure over to the King. Because the real deal was present the figurine was as detailed as possible. Well, being made of glass it would break if it were dropped.

「Th- this is amazing... it's something made of magic that looks just like the real thing, the King is also here but..... how heartfelt it is...」

The King accepted it with a light hearted positive feeling; his eyes glittered in admiration at the figure.

I continued using more glasses, I made two more figurines. I should make the whole family.

After a while the Queen and Princess's figurines were completed. I gave them to the persons in question. The two rejoiced as they accepted them, and showed each other their own figurines, then lined them up on the table. Yep, when the three are together it's picturesque.

「Well, we received something wonderful」

「Actually, I those glasses were really already yours. I should apologize for using them without permission instead.」

I quickly bowed my head to the king. I saw the wistful expression on the Duke's face when I looked up. What an easily comprehensible person.

「...Next time I should make the Duke's family」

「Really!? Well, that's great!」

If I'm going to make them Sue and Ellen should be there so they can be made well.

While looking at the Duke who had the goofy grin, bang! Charlotte jumped in holding various items.

With a bloodcurdling gait, she approached me, she placed and expanded before me a piece of parchment that had some writing on it.

「This, can you read this!?!」

Charlotte was approaching like a growing bamboo shoot. What is it, it's scary!

With a look of obsession, I looked over the parchment, there was a language I'd never seen before and had absolutely no idea what it meant.

「I can't read this. What is this?」

「You can't read this right? Then, can you use this no-attribute magic item?」

The next thing she brought was a thick book and opened to one of the pages. I can read that. Um, no-attribute magic "Reading"? It was magic that was able to decipher some languages making them readable? But, knowledge of the language was still required. I see, with this you can certainly read it.

「I think I can use this but... do you understand anything about this language?」

「It's an ancient dead language of the spirits. But almost no one can read it.」

N- Well, might as well give it a try.

「Reading: Ancient language of the Spirits」

The magic activated. I picked up the parchment and looked at it..... nu.....

「This is.....」

「Can, can you read it!？」

Charlotte stared at me with glittering eyes. I lowered my eyes back down to the parchment.

「I'm sorry... I can read it, but I don't understand what it says.」

「You can read it... but don't understand? What do you mean by that?」

「Well, 'mamoto niokeru imi no aru jutsushiki no motanai degomento ha, maryoku wo butsuketa soma shiki niote no edosu no henka wo.....'(regarding meaning of the demon's origin of a certain ability that isn't dismissed, the discharge of magic that hits the soma equation depending on the Edosu's change..... its ancient technobabel) and the like are written but I have absolutely no idea what any of it means.」

No clue. "Ability to read" and "Ability to understand" are two different things. It's too difficult for me to understand.

「You can read it can't you! That's amazing, Touya! With this research will progress by leaps.....! Excuse me, can you read this as well!？」

「Pl- pl-, please wait a moment!」

Charlotte approaches me at a frightening pace, was stopped. Your breathing is ragged! Scary!

「Charlotte. Won't you calm down a little?」

「Ha-! I'm sorry! I just got excited....」

Reacting to the King's words looked down, the court magician bit her lip, and her face turned brilliant shade of red.

「Well, I know you've been researching the magic of the ancient spirits of the dead for a long time, it's not as if I don't understand that feeling.」

「That's right! Until now we were researching every word, one by

one, and even then there were still misinterpretations that took years to trace out, just for a moment. Touya! Please help us decipher this by all means!」

Eh? Keep reading like this...? Forever?

「By the way, how much is there...?」

「Let's see, there are countless documents but..... first, the Ancient civilization Paruteno left –」

「Ok, stop!」

You lost me at “countless”. Once in a while would be fine but I don't want to do this as a job! I have no desire to become a translator.

Charlotte made a “it's the end of the world” face at me for refusing. Even if you make that kind of face.

Oh, that's right.

「Excuse me, Your Majesty. Can I use another glass?」

「I don't mind but, are you going to make something else?」

Um this is fine for the glass part, for the metal part,....a will a silver coin work?

Taking out a silver coin and using the glass, I use “Modeling” to form its shape. I use the silver coin for the frames and the glass for the lenses and complete it.

They're a rather simple design, but they're glasses. The lens part is just regular glass so they're really just “fake” glasses.

Charlotte, who hadn't seen the glass figurines being made, was the only one who was startled. It's not finished yet.

Next I apply an “Enchantment” to the glasses to give it an enchanted effect.

「Enchant: Reading / Language of the Ancient Spirits of the Dead」

After a short while the light emitting from the glasses subsided. I took them in my hands and placed them on my own face. I then removed them and handed them to Charlotte.

「Put them on the same way I just did.」

「Eh? Haa.....」



Illust. ねこたま。

While saying that, Charlotte put on the glasses. Oou, they look better on her than I thought. Birth beauty in glasses. I returned the parchment to Charlotte.

「Now then, please read this」

「Eh?..... ‘mamoto niokeru imi no aru jutsushiki no motanai degomento ha, maryoku wo’ I- I can read it! I can read it too!」

Great, it was a success. The translation glasses were now complete.

Looking at the other pieces of parchment she had brought in each hand, she overflowed with glee, and her frolicking figure looked nothing like an adult woman but it was very cute.

「The effect should be continuous and almost permanent. If the effect stops, please tell me.」

「Yes! Ah, um, you mean I can have these!？」

「Please. I want you to have them」

「Thank you very much!」

Phew, now I don't have to worry about my job suddenly changing to translator.

Charlotte was so please and bluntly announced that she was going to begin research! And left in a torrent.

「Excuse her. Once she gets like that everything else disappears.... Although she's this country's number 1 genius in magic.....」

「Ara, that's one of her good points isn't it?」

「Well if you're pleased then it couldn't be better」

While the King had a worried look on his face the Queen laughed quietly under her breath. While watching that I sat in a chair, and drank my now cold tea. First class teas are good even when cold.

Ji———...

Ji———...

Ji———...

Ji———...

...Yeah, she's been staring at me for a while now.

Who is it you ask? The Princess of course. The blue and green heterochromic eyes wouldn't stop looking at me. They had a "locked on target" kind of feeling. What exactly are you planning.....? Her face was somewhat red.....

Fu, the glare attack seemed to stop. I glanced at the Princess, who had stood up facing the King and Queen.

「What is it Yumina?」

「Father, Mother. I have decided」

“What exactly did you decide?” I thought with a sidelong glance, I started to drink my tea again.

Her face turned bright red, she opened her mouth and said

「This Mochizuki Touya person..... is the person I wish to marry!」

Bu———!!!

At the Princesses' explosive statement, the cold tea danced in the air.

More surprises to come tomorrow! PS Sorry about the image, forgot you couldn't just copy and paste images too.

Chapter 28: Engagement and the Uninvited Guest

What did that child say just now? Marriage? Bloodstain? Splendid? Oh, a duel huh? 『I wish to duel with this Mochizuki Touya person.』 Yeah, I don't get it.

(In: There are different kanji for marriage(結婚)and bloodstain (血痕), kekkon, but have the same reading which turns into splendid(結構), kekkou, which further turns into duel, kettou(血統). It's a stupid pun.)

「.....I'm sorry, but could you say that one more time, Yumina?」

「Like I said, I wish to marry Mochizuki Touya, father.」

「My my」

At the King's words, Princess Yumina repeated the same thing. Queen Yuela who was sitting beside the king opened her eyes wide and looked at her daughter.

The Duke was surprised as well? He glanced between niece and elder brother.

「May I ask why?」

“Yes, there is the fact that you were saved, father..... the people that surround Touya-sama are all smiling. Uncle Alfred, Charlotte, as well as everyone else are so happy. He is a person of very desirable character. I wish to walk my life with this person.... It's the first time I've ever thought that.」

「.....I see....If you say as much there is no reason to object. Become happy」

「Father!」

「Please wait one moment!」

I threw my hand up and butted into the conversation between parent and daughter. If I don't cut in now, it will become an even more confusing situation. No, it's already plenty confusing right now!

「Please don't move ahead without consulting the other party first please!」

「Oh, sorry about that. Please take good care of my daughter, Touya.-dono」

「Nononono! That's strange! Your Majesty, you're strange!」

I went and called the King “you” but I wasn't worried about it. My life hangs in the balance here!

「Even if she is the princess of a single country, is it really alright for her to marry some guy you hardly know anything about!? I might actually be a nefarious villain you know!？」

「On that there is no mistake. Yumina recognized it so, at the very least you are no villain. She has the power of “understanding the nature”」

Ha? She can understand the “nature”? What does that mean?

「Yumina possess “Evil perception”. She has the power to see through to the true nature of a person. Well, you could call it intuition but, in Yumina's case, she has never been wrong.」

The Duke explained. To sum it up, she can ascertain if a person is good or bad by instinct? Is that the power of heterochromia. Well if it were someone like Earl Balsa then it would be easy to tell if he was a villain, but if that ability was real, then she wouldn't be caught by a bad guy.

The princess doesn't seem like a bad person, but that's a different story.

「.....Just how old is Princess Yumina anyways?」

「12 years old」

「Isn't marriage too early for...!」

「No, people in the royal family regularly get engaged by 15. I myself was engaged to my wife at 14.」

Gu. This is why different worlds are. My face looked like I'd swallowed a bitter bug, there was a tight grasp on my coat sleeve.

「Do you hate me, Touya-sama?」

Princess Yumina looked at me with such sad eyes, Wai-, that's foul

play! That's unfair!

「Ah-... I don't hate you but...」

「Then there is no problem, right!」

Yumina broke into a sudden smile. How cute—janakute!

What should I do? I-it's true that I don't really dislike this girl, I don't really have anyone I especially like either. Her parents have given their permission as well, there isn't a problem with the cost of living. Huh? There isn't any reason to refuse?

No! Marriage is life's graveyard! My older brother cousin told me so! He had a pregnancy marriage, and after 3 years got divorced. He didn't know why. After his wife pestered him he went and got a loan to buy a house, then he was thrown out. He had to keep paying the high loan payments and child rearing expenses for his children that he lives far away from. But, the ex-wife kept using the money however she pleased. When the family got together for New Year's, everyone kept pouring sake to comfort him.

That cousin's exhausted face floats in my mind.

Ok, I'll be a well-off bachelor nobleman! Well I'm not a nobleman though!

「...In my country, men can't get married until 18 and women until 16. Furthermore, I don't know anything about the princess, so I can't think of getting married yet.」

「How old are you now Touya?」

「I am 15 years old. But, I'll be turning 16 soon.」

I answered Queen Yuela's question. If I remember correctly my birthday should be about 2 months away. I'm not sure if this world's calendar matches this one's though.

「Then the wedding will happen in two years. There shouldn't be a problem if you take the time to learn about her by then. So as the fiancé you'll have plenty of time to think about it Touya.」

Wait wait wait, in 2 years Princess Yumina will be only 14 years old! This is bad, the Queen is strange too!

「Touya-dono?」

「Yes!?!」

I let out a strange voice in reply to the King. It couldn't really be helped under the circumstances!

「If after 2 years, you get to know Yumina and still cannot consider her for marriage then we will give up. Would that work for you?」

「Ha... well, if it's like that then....」

That's many times better than getting married all of a sudden, after a while they might cool off as well, some other man might come along too... Then if they see reality and marry her to him then all the better. Arguing any further doesn't seem to do any good huh.....?

I gave up and accepted the conditions the other side had proposed.

「That's wonderful isn't it, Yumina. Catch Touya's heart in the next 2 years. If you do not we are sending you to the monastery, so be prepared.」

「Yes, mother!」

「Wait! What the heck is that!?!」

I was too rash after all! It's heavy! Far too heavy! What is this, my escape routes are being sealed one by one!

Why do I have to spend my entire life married to this girl? Isn't there someone better for her?!

「I hope to get along with you from here, Touya-sama」

The Princess had a shining smile. I on the other hand couldn't do anything but laugh dryly. I heard my cousin's voice "Don't become like me" is what it felt like.

「What the heck are you doing?」

「Well, I'm not really sure what's going on myself.....」

After returning to "The Silver Moon" I explained the entire situation to everyone, and Elise retorted in an astounded voice.

「Touya-dono is going to get married degozaru?」

「What a surprise.....」

Yae and Lindsey said with an astounded face, as they stared at the girl clinging to my left arm.

That's right. She followed me back. It was this country's princess

Ms. Yumina Elena Belfast.

「I'm Yumina Elena Belfast. I hope to get along with you all.」

The princess politely bows her head at everyone while greeting them. She had an unbearably happy smile, it was heavy on my heart.

「So? Why is the princess here?」

「Yes. As the person who saved my father's life, I wanted to live together with Touya-sama. It seemed suitable for bridal training. I may trouble you as I am ignorant of the world but, I hope to get along with all of you.」

That's right. Right after "that" happened, the princess followed me. Just what was the King thinking? It is most important for her to learn about her partner. At least send a guard! Aren't you at least worried about your daughter? Could it be that there are ninjas in the ceiling? Just when I thought that, there was a noise in the ceilingIt's just a rat, right?

「Live together, here? Is it really alright with you being the princess?」

What Elise said was most reasonable. I thought so as well. Until now, she had been surrounded by many employees, and had everything prepared for her.

Honestly, it was considerably painful and I wished she would go back...

「Please stop speaking formally to me, Elise. For now, I will do whatever I am able to help Touya-sama. I hope I just don't slow any one down, and will do my best!」

She grasped both fists in front of her chest and had a pose like she was full of inspiration. How cute—janakute.

「.....what do you mean exactly?」

Asked Lindsey, who had raised her hand.

「To begin with, I'll register with the same guild as all of you. I will take on requests as well.」

「「「「Eh!？」」」」

Everyone exclaimed in harmony. Register with the guild... you want to become an adventurer!?

「Wa- Princess? Do you understand what it means to take on a guild request!? There are many dangerous——」

「I understand that. Also, please stop calling me princess. Call me Yumina please, hubby.」

「Please don't say hubby!」

「Well then, Yumina」

The princess smiles a pleased smile... I mean Yumina. This girl is surprisingly tough.

For the time being please don't say hubby or Touya-sama. It's just Touya, Yumina.

「I learned some magic from Charlotte, and learned how to shoot a bow. I think I'm fairly strong.」

「A bow and magic... Certainly, long distance attacks will be helpful. What magic attributes do you have, degozaru?」

「Wind, earth and shadow. I can only summon only 3 kinds of beasts however.」

Wind, earth and shadow. Those were attributes that Lindsey didn't have. I don't know her strength yet though...

「Um, what should we do?」

I face Elise, Lindsey, and Yae with my arms crossed. What to do, meaning whether or not to add her to the party.

「...Well for the time being we could wait and see, we could go and take a request...?」

「I see. We could choose after seeing her strength, degozaru?」

「Yeah, well if it's too dangerous we'll just get Touya to defend her. It's decided right?」

I wanted to interject in several places but I decided to stay quiet. I mean, it had a feeling of me not having the right to speak.

We'll head over to the guild tomorrow. It seems it's been decided that Yumina would register with the guild.

After that, I arranged for a room for her with Mika (she wanted to stay with my but I absolutely refused), I made meal plans with everyone, and decided to prepare for tomorrow before going to sleep.

After going back to my room, I lay on my bed, finally alone. I'm beat.....Completely exhausted.....

While I was sleeping like a log, I heard my ring tone that I hadn't heard for a long time and answered the phone. It was a light hearted tune, but I was a little irritated.

When I took it out the caller ID read "Receiving: God"

「.....Hello」

『Oh, it's been a while hasn't it? Congratulations on your engagement, Touya』

「.....How do you know about that?Oh wait it wouldn't be strange for God to know about that right?.....」

『Hahaha. It was just by chance. I decided to take a look at where you were, some pretty interesting things happened』

God's voice seemed to be happy.

「It's not interesting at all..... Getting married at this age is unthinkable you know.」

『She's a nice girl isn't she? What's the problem?』

「No, well Yumina is cute and in the future will become a considerably beautiful woman you know? Her character is obedient and she is desirable too. But this and that are two different things.」

『You're stubborn. In this world polygamy is actually pretty common; you should go ahead and marry as many girls as you are pleased with.』

Is that how it is.....? Because the Duke and King only had one wife, I assumed that..... Nono, that's not the issue. I'm not looking to make a harem. (tln; The harem is coming for you whether you like it or not)

『Well, what you end up doing is of great interest of everyone here, do your best ok?』

「What a selfish thing to.....N?What do you mean by "everyone"?」

『This world's pantheon. I showed you to everyone and they all showed some concern. Although about half were amused.』

Eh? What does that mean? Isn't there just one god?

「Pantheon? There are gods other than you there?」

『There are. Although I'm tentatively the highest god there are other lower class gods, the god of Art, the god of Love, the god of the Sword, the god of agriculture among many others. The god of Love was especially interested in you.』

The person that stuck their head in other people love affairs, the god of Love.

『As your relatives everyone is going to attend your wedding. Ah, I'm going to play the part of grandfather though.』

「Now see here.....」

Were the gods that available? For all gods to attend on the bridegroom's side as relatives, what does that even mean? It's true that I don't have any relatives in this world though.

「Would it be possible to keep them from interfering any further?」

『It would be more accurate to say that "The world of gods doesn't often" interfere. But, there is no problem when they come down to the world of humans.』

That's a big enough problem all on its own though.....you lose if you retort. In myths the gods would often come down and mess around didn't they.

『Well, anyway. We're rooting for you. Think hard about living a life with no regrets. We wish for your happiness. Well then, see you later』

「Haa.....」

With a vague reply the phone call ended. A life without regrets.

What would happen if I were to marry 12 girls.....? The age difference between a freshmen in high school and a 5th grade girl, when I think about it, seems considerable, but 4 years difference isn't really that big a deal...? My parents were 6 years apart. There were even performers that were married that were 30 years apart.

To start with, I hadn't even gone out with a girl, so marriage didn't click at all.

Crap, I don't get it. I'm going to sleep.

Chapter 29: Silver Wolf and The Great Ape

We went to the guild together the next day.

Because Yumina's clothes are too dazzling and they stand out too much while walking around the town, we borrowed clothes from Lindsey and Elsie for her to wear.



Illust. ねこたま。

A white blouse decorated with a ribbon on the chest and a black jacket, black knee-socks in blue culottes. Although the clothes belong to another person, it suits her well and gives a pleasant feeling.

Her long blonde hair is tied together in a braid, to allow her to move easily.

As for me, I thought her odd eyes would stand out but, that doesn't seem to be the case in this world. Odd eyes doesn't necessarily mean they're evil eye carriers.

From just appearance alone it makes her a completely normal girl. Whether or not that normal puts her considerably in the pretty girl category, I'll leave it at that.

[Just from interest, if Yumina gets married to Touya, is Touya going to be the next king?]

[Let me see. I would be glad if that were to happen. To do this, Touya will need to be recognized by the nobles and the people. Well, if a younger brother was born, that child will result in being the next successor]

While Listening to Elsie and Yumina's conversation along the way to the guild, I sent a sincere yell to King. Do your best, for my happiness. Somehow, just another child. I wonder if I should search with my smartphone how to make a stamina drink afterwards..... Wrong! Doesn't make it that it's assumed that I'll marry Yumina!

[I don't have any intention of becoming the King, just so you know]

[We are aware. There are other ways that someone else can succeed! Like if a son is born in my uncle's family, uum, or if our child that is born is a boy]

What is this, between us? Saying it yourself then becoming bright red after. I'm also being infected over here.

We decided to prepare equipment for Yumina so we stop by [Weapon shop Kumachi] before going to the guild. If they ask me whether we have money, I'll show them the farewell gift I received from the king rattling with money inside. I have a bad feeling that if I show them that I received a bag with contents of 50 white gold coins inside. 50,000,000 yen for a farewell present is indeed a bit too much.

I have the store owner of Kumachi show me the bows. The assortment of goods aren't as good as the capital but, the things here are reasonable to some degree. When choosing what from

among them, Yumina pulls the bowstring and checks the sensation, a short length and light, M shaped synthetic, composite bow was chosen.

It seems she prefers easily to handle and quick firing more than ones for distance. It is certainly difficult for a small girl to use a longbow.

We bought a quiver with a set of 100 arrows at the same time. We also bought a white leather chest protector along with matching boots. Good, with this she is more or less OK I think.

We enter with Yumina into the crowded guild as usual.

People who are also in the guild as always, they turned their line of sight and glanced at us, some of the men threw an intense glare at me.

I didn't understand the reason at the beginning, but I understand now.

Elsie and Lindsey, also Yae...are quite cute even if they aren't seen in a favorable light. And, together in their gaze at me are these cute girls. Thorny de aru.

Actually, when the girls weren't present, it was easy to be influenced by "I don't like it" kind of feeling. Well, we'll just keep that politely under the surface.

Well, it's better to be with these group than none at all.

While I ask the onee-san of the reception desk for Yumina's registration, Elsie and the others go to the request board and check the contents.

We finish the registration and when we go to where the others are, they had a green request form.

[Did you get a reasonable one?]

[Nh, Well, I wonder how this one is]

I was handed the request form. It's a subjugation task. Umm,

[Five king apes.....What kind of demon beasts are they?]

[They are great ape demon beasts, desu. They form a crowd of several of them and attack. They fall for traps because they don't have much intelligence but, their power requires attention desu. If it's with our level, we can handle them almost no problem]

(TLN: He keeps interchanging between king ape(kingu eipu) and great ape or large monkey(dai saru)

A power monster with a brute force approach is it. Still, even as [King] they seem to crowd in large quantity, which gives an out of place feeling. I hand over the request form to Yumina, while thinking about the explanation we hear from Lindsey.

[How is it? is it alright?]

[There's no problem. It's okay desu]

Our guild card is green, but Yumina's card is naturally, the beginner black. Although it wasn't necessary to match ours. But, Yumina refused to let go of having green too.

They're black>purple>green>blue>red>silver>gold and changes respectively,

Black > Beginner.

Purple > Apprentice adventurer.

Green > Third class adventurer.

Blue > Second class adventurer.

Red > First class adventurer

Silver > Top first class adventurer

Gold > Hero (Eiyuu)

It seems to be like this. As your rank rises, it gets increasingly difficult to rank up. Incidentally, there are no gold rank adventurers in this country. So that means there aren't any heroes idling about.

For now we take the King ape subjugation request to the reception desk to get it accepted. The place is south from here, it seems to be a former forest across the Alaine River.

Unfortunately, because we haven't been to the south yet, I can't use

gate so we had to use a carriage.

Elsie and Lindsey are sitting in driver seat, me, Yae and Yumina sitting in the carrier. By the way, it seems Yumina can drive the carriage as well. Despite being a princess. No, is it because she is a princess? Is it for doing things like long distance riding? By any chance people who can't handle horses in this world are a minority....

[Nn, because we rent the carriage every time, should I buy it?]

[Although there are all sorts of carriages de gozaru ga, will it be fine? Besides taking care of a horse is difficult de gozaru. We can't just leave it at [Silver moon] all the time]

That's right. It has its good and bad points. To be honest, I can't take care of a horse. Since I can't take care of it, I shouldn't buy any kind of living thing.

The carriage advances forward while we have such a conversation, three hours later, we cross the Alaine River and arrive at the south forest.

Now, where are these king apes? I can look for them using [Search], I would normally notice demon beasts within a radius of 50 meters. I can also use [Long sense], it's like having an alter ego in a long distance, it doesn't change the fact that I have to search the forest after all. However, the degree of risk decreases.

Looking at the map in my smartphone, the forest is large in its own way. From here, looking for a specific demon beast is difficult huh. Even the search function of the map can't look for living things or demon beasts.

As expected, we have to steadily search. When we try to set foot into the forest, Yumina stopped.

[Sorry, can I use summoning magic before we enter the forest?]

[Summoning magic? Something that calls?]

[Yes, even though we're looking for king apes, this will probably help

us]

Yumina backs away a little from us and starts activating the magic.

[Darkness Come Forth, What I see is a proud silver wolf (gin ookami), Silver wolf (Shiruba urufu)]

When she finished chanting the spell, silver wolves started coming out of Yumina's shadow one by one. Five in total. Their size is about 1 meter. They go around Yumina while wagging their tail joyfully, one of the wolf was slightly bigger with a cross pattern on its forehead.

[These children will search as well. Because we can communicate even if we're far apart, we will know immediately if they're discovered]

I see. Dogs...I mean, wolves huh. I wonder if they can be discovered quicker with their sense of smell.

[Then, everyone please]

When Yumina gives the order, they ran into the forest barking with a 'wan'. So this is summoning magic. I thought at the time when I saw the lizard men, can I use this too?

While advances our steps into the forest, I try asking Yumina.

[Fundamentally, if you can form a contract with the summoned demon beast, you can learn it. The contract conditions for those children wasn't difficult so I could make a contract easily. Among them that appears is to show them your fighting strength, answering to their requirements. The stronger is it is the harder it will be for them to obey]

I see. The stronger the demon beast the stronger the requirement. It's reasonable, naturally speaking.

Thinking about this while looking around the vicinity, Yumina suddenly comes to a halt.

[.....It seems those children have found them. Ah, however there's somewhat a lot of them. There's seven of them]

[Seven of them...what shall we do? The request is five]

Elsie smacks her gauntlets together.

[I think we better exterminate them in one go. If one of them escapes there's a chance that it will call for more companions]

I also agree with Lindsey's idea. It's possible that there's more than seven of them. I think we should strike while we can.

[Yumina, can you lure the king apes over here?]

[It's possible but...what are you going to do?]

[I'll lay a trap. If it's just something like a pitfall trap then I can do it immediately with earth magic]

I make several pitfall traps with earth magic, then we hide in the shadow of a tree. Before long gogaaaa! They, shouting roars together, chasing after Yumina's wolves, several great apes make an appearance

They're slightly larger than gorillas with long fangs. Apes with sharp pointed ears, bright red eyes, and a ferocious expression while chasing after the wolves.

Just before the pitfalls disguised on the ground, the wolves make a great jump and leap over the traps. Without even doubting to think, the great apes plunges straight ahead and falls into the trap magnificently.

[Gogao!?!]

[Now!]

Me, Yae and Elsie jump out of the tree's shadow. Three fell into the trap. They're buried in the ground chest deep, somehow struggling to crawl out.

Soon an arrow silently stick into the eye of one of them. Yumina huh. From the blind spot of the great ape that lost the eye, Yae assaults forward and severs the carotid artery of the neck.

[Come forth flame, Whirling spiral, Firestorm]

A tornado of flame which Lindsey called attacks the other two caught in the trap. The two of them are charred in no time, me and Lindsey gives finishing blows to the weakened king apes.

Without having time to catch our breath, the remaining four appear from the depths of the forest. Approaching towards us, raising roars and thumping the ground while swinging their giant thick arms.

[Slip!]

[Ugaa!?]

The forceful momentum of the one vanguard charging towards us falls down due to my magic. Arrows fired in succession and pierced the great ape that fell down. Lastly, Yae jumped onto its chest and using her falling weight stabbed with her sword, the great ape stops its movement.

[Boost!]

Elsie who activated her body strengthening magic plunged onto the stomach of the next king ape then dealt heavy blows on its abdomen continuously. It couldn't endure her blows and just like that Yumina's wolves began to attack the great ape that fell down.

Two remaining.

[Come forth lightning, lightning spear of the white lotus, Thunder spear!]

[Come forth flame, flaming spear of the crimson lotus, Fire spear!]

Yumina and Lindsey fired their magic. A wind attribute and a fire attribute, the two magic spears pierced the chest of the two great apes.

GugogaaAa! They yelled in their last moments and the two fell.

Ooh, amazing. Is the skill in magic the same level as Lindsey?. Which means that in terms of the six attribute magic types it's higher than me? Advanced magic, especially attack magic that is not easily acquired. I'm quite good with light magic though.

All seven of the king apes were defeated. With this the battle ends huh. It's good that it was cleared easier than I thought.

The five wolves jumps into Yumina's shadow and disappear.

[Err, How was, I?]

What Yumina is saying is probably along the lines of did I pull everyone down. Frankly speaking, far from being a burden she was a great help. I didn't think that something like covering fire was so effective.

[I see no problem speaking of ability]

[Your magic too is quite something, desu]

[Likewise, the rear support is helpful degozaru na]

They give comments on Yumina's ability affirming their recognition one after another. Although I agree.....even so, to somehow let a 12 year old child to go through that danger.....Hmm.

The girl continues staring at me who is lost in thought with an anxious look. Those eyes are foul play.....could it be this child doesn't understand right?

[.....Please take care of us from now on ne, Yumina]

[Yes! Please leave it to me! Touya-san!]

Yumina embraces me with a face overflowing with a smile. Wai, please save me from that! Everyone is watching!

I pull her off somehow and we start gathering the confirmed fang parts of the king apes.

[However, When Yumina joined us four I'm the only male huh.....]

I breath a small sigh.

[Is there a problem?]

Lindsey looks puzzled. Being unaware is also a problem.

[The three of you might not notice but, I stand out at places like the

guild...and the gazes towards me are painful]

[? Why degozaru?]

[That's because if someone was surrounded by girls you'd get jealous too. Because Elsie, Lindsey and Yae are especially cute]

They all stiffen. What? Did I say something strange? If there was a guy surrounded by cute girls, you will 'tsk' if you're a male.

[A, again, what are you saying, Touya. Stop joking, saying something like I'm cute...]

[Eh, what is?]

[[[.....]]]

Why is everyone's face turning red?

[T, Then, I, let's return!]

[...T, that's right, onee-chan!]

[L, let's return degozaru yo!]

The three move into the forest rapidly at a quick pace. What's with that.....

The sleeves of my coat were pulled a few times.

[Touya-san, What about me? Am I cute?]

[? You are cute I think...?]

[Ehehe]

Yumina embraces me again while wearing an embarrassed grin. Like I said, stop that! After that, we return to carriage, activate gate then returned to Leaflet.

At any rate, summoning magic huh....I still haven't touched the dark attribute yet. Firstly, because of the lizardman that I saw, somehow my image is bad.

If there was also that kind of animal system, I'll try contracting at

least one. Next time, shall I get Yumina to teach me?

Chapter 30: Summoning and the Byakko

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「For the dark attribute's summoning magic, first you need to draw a magic circle; it will begin when you have an object to summon to. The thing that is summoned is completely random, depending on the quality of the magic and magician, whether or not it can be controlled, I don't really know. 」

In the backyard of "The Silver Moon", Yumina drew a large magic circle. It contained a complex pattern from a book; it was drawn as if engraved with chalk. I was told that the chalk was made by compressing demon stone fragments.

「Even if the summoning succeeds, the person that wishes to form a contract must fulfill the partner's conditions before the contract can be established. From the easiest to the absolutely most impossible to imagine; depending on the partner the conditions will be different. The condition of these little ones was, 'Feed me until I'm full'」

Yumina finished drawing the magic circle, and she patted the head of the one silver wolf's head. Drawn on the head of the silver wolf, that she had just petted, was a pattern formed on it that showed there was a contract with Yumina I heard. It seems that this is the leader of the other wolves from the other day. By the way its name is "Silver". Wring it more.

Typically, if a contract is made with the leader, then you also control the subordinates as well. Sue, who used lizard men to attack, it was probably the person that was like the chief that she had made a contract with.

「If the person doesn't meet the requirements of the summoned creature it leaves. And it will be impossible to ever be summoned again. You only have one chance to make a contract」

I see. A once in a lifetime thing.... Or is it a bit different?

「It's not dangerous is it? It won't suddenly attack me or anything?」

「Because it cannot exist outside the magic circle, as long as we're on this side of the circle we'll be safe. The barrier of the magic circle also prevents all distance attacks. However, when the summoner enters it's a different story. There are those that demand a show of strength.」

Well, it's dangerous isn't it? Well, if it seems there is absolutely no chance of winning, wouldn't it be alright to just send them back politely? It might be a wasteful though.

「The summoned beast that is called is unrelated to the magic ability of the person in question?」

「Yes. There are often stories of complete beginners that summon high-ranking beasts as well.」

Then I have that possibility as well? It's completely up to luck though.

「Well do you want to give it a try?」

Standing in front of the completed magic circle, I stuck my hand out in front of it. Then I concentrated dark attribute magic, and collected it in the center of the magic circle. Then little by little, then from the center of the magic circle a black mist began to form, and suddenly a magic explosion occurred.

『.....The one that called me, was you?』

Before I knew it the black mist cleared up, from within the magic circle stood a single large white tiger. Did this thing just speak? It had a sharp, penetrating, overpowering feeling. Its fangs and claws looked very sharp. It's another distinguished thing huh..... I felt a wave of magic that was like an electric jolt. This is no ordinary tiger.

「This overpowering feeling, white tiger...could it be, 'Byakko'...!」
(tln:Bi-ya-*pause*-co)

『Ho, you know who I am?』

The Byakko glances behind me at Yumina and the Silver the silver wolf cowering behind me. The silver wolf's tail was completely

exposed and he was covering his ears, he was frightened. Well, it's scary to be stared at by a tiger. Right now it was "Tiger in the front, wolf in the rear"! But, that didn't matter.

「Could you not stare so much, please? Can't you see they're frightened?」

『.....You seem calm don't you? Even standing in my sight and bathed in my magic..... how interesting』

「At first I was startled. But it's not an amount that you can't get used to. Yumina what is a 'Byakko'?」

While Yumina looked at me, she tried to say something to me with quivering lips. However, no voice came out. It's probably because of the overpowering magic.

「Could you stop that for a moment? We can't talk like this. I don't think that it's praiseworthy to threaten the weak. 」

『.....Very well』

After protesting to the Byakko, the overpowering feeling disappeared. He's someone that understands isn't he?

「So, Yumina. "Byakko" is?」

「Among summons, there are four animals in the highest class, there alone is one.... On the western highroad, they are the protectors, the kings of beasts.....not a demon beast, a divine beast.」

While still trembling, Yumina explains falteringly. Divine beasts. It would be amusing if they were god's pets.

「And, what should I do to make a contract?」

『.....A contract with me? I seem to be rather underestimated.』

「Let's just see for now, if it seems impossible, I'll just give up.」

『Fumu.....』

The Byakko stared at me, twitched its noes, and tilted his head slightly.

『This is strange..... I feel a strange power from you. Spirits' divine protection..... No, it's from an even higher rank..... What is this?』

Sprits' divine protection? Unfortunately, I don't know of any sprits.

『.....Alright, I want to see the quality and quantity of your magic. If you are to make a contract to I who is a divine beast. We cannot make a contract with someone that has only superficial magic.』

「My magic?」

『That's right. Touch me with your magic. Until your magic is almost run dry. If you meet the minimum quality and quantity requirements, then I will think upon a contract.』

Fufun, the tiger looked as if it was laughing. Think upon it said, but did not actually promise a contract.

But, the tiger says some dangerous things. For magic to run dry, in a game it would be like MP falling to 0? It would be impossible to practice magic for a little while. When he says almost dry he means like 1 MP?

Oh yea, will my magic actually run dry in the first place.....? Ever since I started using magic, I've never felt that happen even once. Lindsey once told me that I had a lot of magic but, could it be because of that?

Anyways, I put my hand inside the magic circle and touched the byakko's forehead with my palm. Oo, so soft.

「Should I just throw magic at you just like this?」

『That's right. All at once. I will see your magic. If your magic dries up and you collapse, no contract.』

N—, I don't want the contract that badly, if I start feeling bad partway through, I'll just stop.

「Ok, here I go?」

I concentrated the magic, and send it slowly through my hand to the tiger. Yean, I don't feel strange at all.

『Mu...this is...what, this transparent quality of magic...!?!』

The tiger is saying something. Oh yeah, Lindsey said something like that too. Well, oh well. Since it seems alright, I'll throw it all at once. The magic thrown at the tiger increased in an instant.

『Nuu!? Wh-what!?!』

Well, I don't get the sense that the magic is decreasing at all. Is it no

good if I don't increase it more? I'll increase it even further.

『Bu, th, this is.....wa, wait a mom-...!』

I'm still not getting it. Lets increase it some more.

『Wa... wait... anymore and ...auu...!』

I increased it even further..... I started to feel just the slightest bit fatigued but, is this how it feels like when your magic decreases?

『...St...op....please!』

「Touya-san!」

After hearing Yumina's voice I see the tiger in front of me, the body was starting to convulse, it was foaming at the mouth and its eyes were rolled back. It was trembling as it stood, it didn't release its head from my hand, it looked like it was being forced to stand.

I panicked and stopped throwing magic at him, released my hand and the tiger collapsed to the ground.

「Huh?」

Did I do something bad? Would it be best if I apply some recovery magic now? The tongue is out and it's still twitching from the convulsions.

「Come forth light, Tranquil healing, Cure Heal」

I waited after using recovery magic on him. Before long, the Byakko's eyes cleared and stood up uneasily, and came close to me.

『.....I just want to ask one thing...even with that amount of magic used, did you still have some room left?』

「N? Rather than room, it only decreased buy a tiny bit. I mean, huh, it's already recovered.」

『What...!』

The tiger was speechless. I see, I'd never felt magic consumption because my ability to recover it was greater than anything I'd used. That works.

「So, about the contract...」

『.....May I ask your name?』

「? Mochizuki Touya. Ah, my name is Touya though.」

The tone of the tiger suddenly changed and had a mysterious expression on its face, it bowed his head quietly.

『Mochizuki Touya-sama. You are the most suited to be my master. Please allow me to make a contract with you.』

Oo, the Byakko became my companion.

「What should I do for the contract?」

『Give me a name. That will be the proof of our contract. It will be the bond between us in the world where I exist.』

「A nameum.....?」

Tiger. Byakko. Let's see.....

「Kohaku. How about Kohaku?」

『Kohaku?』

「It's written like this」

On the ground in wrote the characters for Kohaku「琥珀」

「This is tiger, and this is white, and the parts on the left side of each character mean king」

『A white tiger that stands next to the king. That is the perfect name for me. Please call me Kohaku from now on.』

Apparently the contract was complete. Then Kohaku slowly walked out of the magic circle toward me

「That's amazing, Touya-san.... To form a contract with 'Byakko'」

『Girl, I am 'Byakko' no longer. Will you please call me Kohaku?』

「Ah, yes. Kohaku-san.」

Yumina muttered at the 'Byakko' in blank surprise, Kohaku responded. Behind Yumina, the silver wolf still cowered, but as soon as he realized that Kohaku's gaze was upon him he disappeared quickly into Yumina's shadow.

『Master, I have one request.』

「What?」

『I would like you to permit me to always remain here』

「? What do you mean?」

『Normally when a summoner calls us, the presence of the summoner is required. So if the flow magic were to stop then we would disappear before long. That is normal. However, master's magic hardly decreased at all from a little while ago. Then it would be no problem for me to exist here indefinitely, is what I think.』

Ah, Kohaku's existence depends on the ability of the user to recover magic rather than the initial quantity to remain here, so naturally someone with a high recovery rate would allow as such. Well, as long as there's no problem, it doesn't matter.....

「There's no problem with you actually being here, however, having a large tiger just waltzing around town might be a little.....」

『Fumu... then I will change my appearance.』

「Eh?」

As soon as I said that with a "Pon" Kohaku changed into a tiger cub. He can do those kind of things too?

He was approximately the size of a small dog. His hand and feet were short and fat, his tail was fat too. Overpowering feeling -100%, cuteness +100%

Due to the overpowering cuteness I picked him up without thinking. Uwah, really fluffy. I was really glad that I summoned Kohaku from the bottom of my heart, right now I really felt that way.

『This appearance shouldn't really standout』

Uoo, it spoke. Its cuteness increased even further.

「It's not that it doesn't stand out, but it should be fine」

『Thank you very much. Now, with this appearance I, -gufu!?』

「Kya——-, So cute————!!」

Kohaku was plundered from my hand and hugged by Yumina. She ground their cheeks together as he struggled.

『Hey, release me I say! What is this master!?』

「Ah, I haven't introduced myself yet have I. I'm called Yumina. I am Touya-san's bride.」

『Master's wife!?!』

The tiger's surprised faces came in quick succession. Hey, wait we aren't married yet.

For a while, Yumina petted Kohaku, getting tired of struggling, decided to just endure it.

Neither Kohaku nor his master could disobey the girl's mood, who had introduced herself as his wife, and just waited for it to end.

After a while Yumina was satisfied with the fluffiness, and then Elsie and the others appeared, and the same thing happened with them. This time it was 3 times the petting.

『Ma, master! Can you not do something about this?!』

『Bear it. It'll pass sooner or later.』

『No way-!』

And it was in this way we got a new companion. You could say that its other name was Mascot.

When everyone else is satisfied with patting the fluffiness, I'm going to do it too.

While hearing Kohaku's screams, I looked at the sky. Its good weather today isn't it—.

God is in heaven, nothing else mattered in all the world.

Arc 5 – Toward the Royal Capital

Chapter 31: The Lost Child and the New Feature

About 3 days after he was released from the so called “Fluffy hell”, he wanted to go with me and explore the town.

We walked outside the hotel and onto the main street. For now, let's head over to the market because that's where most of the people are.

There were people displaying and selling various items. From food, to miscellaneous goods to clothing and items were sold there. Were there any good bargains to be had? People mixed around while searching for things they were looking for.

(『It's pretty lively here isn't it?』)

(『This is tentatively the center of town. You can buy things cheaply here so it's a place that everyone comes to.』)

Kohaku and I didn't hear us talking. Being that we were summoner and summoned beast, we could more or less understand what we were thinking. We didn't really talk out loud because people would think that I was nuts.

Although Kohaku was in this form Kohaku was still a tiger. He stood out after all. But, everyone just looked from a distance, with the reaction of seeing something unusual and didn't overreact at all. Occasionally some girls would pat his head as they passed by.

Because we were in the presence of other people, he pretended to be a tiger cub and Kohaku let out a “Gau gau” which in turn made the girls happily pat his head more. Since he had been liberated from our girl's attention it was a disaster....

But it really is crowded isn't it? We should try not to get separated.

Well, even if we were to be separated, I would be able to feel where he was and find him easily.

People kept mixing around me and Kohaku was starting to get restless, it could be bad. I was starting to look troubled. Because of that I picked him up and held him. At first he didn't want to, but shortly settled down.

Just like that we walked around then suddenly, Kohaku looked over to the right, in the crowd of mixing people.

(『Master, is that not Yae over there?』)

(『Eh?』)

Abruptly, I looked in the crowd and followed Kohaku's glance, over at the edge, on the side where the flow of traffic wouldn't be interrupted, Yae was squatting down. There was also a girl of about 4 years of age sobbing in front of Yae. Yae was working very hard to calm her down.

「What are you doing Yae?」

「Touya-dono? Kohaku is with you also, degozaru?」

After seeing our faces, Yae shows relief on her face. What happened? That's an unusual expression for Yae.

「...This child is?」

「That is, she seems to be lost, degozaru」

A lost child? In this crowd it seemed to be easy to get lost. I looked around in the vicinity while thinking so. In this crowd, looking for the parents will be difficult.

「Ok, what is your name?」

「Uku...Feeeee....Mommy....」

It's no use. It's not a place for her name it seems. If she doesn't stop crying we won't be able to ask her anything..

「I also tried to ask her things like her name, where she came from, but she wouldn't answer at all degozaruyo.」

Yae sighed as she let out a worried face. Fumu, we need to get some kind of information.

I put Kohaku in front of the girl. The girl momentarily startled but pinched her face again and was about to cry again. I ordered Kohaku in my heart.

『What is your name?』

Kohaku speaks to the girl. The girl who until now was ready to weep at any moment looked at the tiger cub and blinked. Then blinked again, and had a puzzled look.

『What is your name?』

「.....Rimu.....」

『I see, it's Rimu is it?』

The girl gave a small nod to Kohaku's question. Great, Kohaku guidance success. Of course, when a tiger cub starts talking to someone they become dumbfounded.. Now then, let's take a look shall we?

「Search: Rimu's family」

I activated the no-attribute magic "Search" I should know if they're within a 50 meter radius.No response. Are they not close by?

「Any thing, degozaru?」

「No. At least they're not within 50 meters.」

Un, what should I do? Use "Search" while walking around? The weakness of "Search" is the retrieval range is considerably small.

Huh...wait a second. To me if I were to look at a normal person I wouldn't be able to determine if that is "Rimu's family." Isn't it obvious that nothing would be retrieved using this method? To not recognize or if there really isn't anyone one there, that isn't something that I can determine using this magic. I don't know the criteria.

It feels like the time when I did the poison search. I didn't know what kind of poison it was, but if I were to taste it I would die, it was poison, and that's how I found it? It was the same with Vanilla, because I knew what vanilla smelled like it was able to find it... it was something like that.

It was true that if a human was to tell themselves "that's wrong" then they wouldn't be able to judge it.

Let's get a little more information.

『Who did you come here with?』

「Mommy」

『Your mother....do you know what the color of your mother's clothing is?』

「Um.....Green clothes」

Kohaku asked questions and little by little Rimu gave Rimu's mother's information one after the other. Hair, brown, long hair; Green clothes, silver bracelet; Blue eyes; not fat. That's good, it was possible to get a general image in my mind. With that information I might be able to recognize Rimu's mother. One more try.

「Search: Rimu's mother」

No response. It's no good huh?

「Anything, degozaru?」

Yae asked but I shook my head. The search range is still too small. If I were able to use my Smartphone app to use it as my search range then it would be a lot of help. I wonder if someone would make me a "Search" app.

.....Wait a sec.

Map app and "Search". Could it be..... lets test that out. I took out my smartphone.

「Enchantment: Search」

I enchanted the map application of my smartphone with "Search". A light shot from my fingertip to the screen and disappeared. Well then, how about now.

I started the map app and the map around me is displayed. Rather than just the market, it displayed the entire town of Leaflet as its search area....I input "Rimu's mother" in the search bar and a pin dropped showing us the location.

「Alright! There's a response!」

Rimu, who had been hugging Kohaku, was startled for a moment

when I suddenly shouted but didn't look like she was about to cry again.

I stood up and patted Rimu's head

「Let's go to your mother's place.」

「Mommmmy!」

「Rimu!」

Seeing a mother and child reunited after being separated for a few hours hugging each other, it was an indescribable feeling. Rim's mother was in the town's guard room. It was something like a police box. After coming and reporting a "lost child" to begin with had hoped that she would be brought soon. Well, in the end it turned out alright.

Yae and I bid farewell with a wave to the mother who was bowing, and Rimu.

「Yae there's something that I wish to try, is that alright?」

「? I don't mind, degozaru?」

We went straight to the coffee shop "Parent", after ordering I asked Yae various things.

I asked things about Yae's house. The exterior, the interior of the gym, every little detail. Whether they had dogs, the Sakura trees in the garden, the pillar with marks of her comparing her height to her older brother's.

After listening to what she said, I searched for "Yae's house" the map app. On the eastern continent, a single pin dropped over part of Ishen.

I expanded the area. To the East of Ishen's Edo.....Hashiba.

「Yae, is your parent's house in Hashiba near Edo? Is there a Shinto shrine nearby?」

「There is, degozaru but.....why do you know that much degozaru?」

Yae looked at my face in surprise. Ok, it looks like it was a success. With this app I could search the entire world. That's a great help. If I don't have detailed enough information the search results won't narrow though.

After explaining to Yae, I tried to search for her brother. Yae gave her brother's characteristics, and it was easy to find him.

「There's a dojo right? There seems to be a lot of movement, he might be in a match right now.」

「That is so like older brother.」

While looking at the smartphone screen, Yae smiled.

「Older brother is usually calm, but when it comes to the sword he becomes engrossed with it. He really loves the sword, so much that he forgets to eat.」

Yae happily talks about her brother. With a look of longing at the pin that kept moving on the screen.

「You love your brother, don't you Yae?」

「.....That's right, degozaru. He's strong and kind, a good older brother that I love.」

I could understand that much just by looking. Just how much Yae's older brother is important to her.

「Which reminds me, you somehow remind me of older brother. You're calm and a good person degozaru.」

「I'm honored to look like you beloved older brother.」

I smiled wryly while drinking a glass of water. I'm not as strong as her brother is with a sword but, in character I guess.

「That's right, degozaru, beloved.....」

While muttering Yae stops. Then looks at me, blushes and in a panic says,

「I- it's not like that you know!? I just wanted to say that Touya and older brother are alike is all, it's not that I like my older brother but that you look alike, I mean I don't dislike you but, um older brother is family, right, family, degozaru! Love like family... love!? Li-like I said it's not like that, degozaru, you know!?!」

Yae says all that in a single breath. I don't know why she's panicking like that. I think loving her brother is a good thing.

「Sorry to keep you waiting—」

A mountain of food was brought (most of it was Yae's) to the table, Yae, still blushing, unable to look me straight in the eye, began devouring it greedily in silence. You sure do eat a lot.....

Maybe she was embarrassed about having said she loved her older brother. Well, I'll keep the suspicion that she has a brother complex locked away in my heart.

Chapter 32: Guilty Feelings and Ancient Magic

After returning with Yae to 「The Silver Moon」, I returned to my room to try something.

I was able to enchant the app with magic. Are there other things I can do?

For instance, can it view faraway places using “Long Sense”? If I were to give that to the camera application.

「Enchant: Long Sense」

I tried to use it. I opened the camera app and looked at what was displayed on the screen. Using 「Long Sense」, I directed the image forward out of the room. It went through the wall of the next room, the room after that was Lindsey's room. It was empty, apparently Lindsey was out. Oh yeah, She and Elsie went shopping.

I then looked at the screen into Lindsey's room as well. It was a strange feeling. The image in my head and the image on my smartphone divided between each eye. The real eye's view and the “long sense” view.

With that, I pushed the shutter button and took a photo. Success. It took a picture of Lindsey's room.

I can use this for long distance photographing. I could also take pictures of the inside of a sealed room. I could most likely take videos the same way, probably.

Oh, I heard a door open and looked up, Lindsey was inside the room. Ah, she came home. Did Elsie come home too?

While thinking of that, Lindsey removed her coat and began to unbutton her blouse. Her pure white skin comes into view and dazzles my eyes. Woah!?

Crap! I wasn't paying attention but, without a doubt this is just peeping! I panicked and released “long sense”

That was dangerous..... A little more and I would have been able

to see.....huh?almost.....?

No! No no! If that were to be exposed, then I'd lose the trust I'd built. It would be nearly impossible to regain that trust. I am not wrong in my judgment! Or should be. No, even if I had watched it wouldn't have been exposed..... I think.....ku.

「Touya-san. Is it ok?」

「Ha, Yes!? Wh-what is it!?」

I jumped at the sound of the door at the girl that I had just been looking upon moments ago. I hurriedly concealed my smartphone against my chest. The door opened shortly and Lindsey's face peered inside.

「...? What's wrong?」

「No!? Nothing's wrong at all! Di-didn't nyu need me for something?」

I bit my tongue. Calm yourself!

「...Today, I found this at an antique shop and bought it but.....」

Lindsey presented me something like a scroll. It was rolled up inside a wooden cylinder. When I saw the contents I couldn't tell what was written on it.

「This is?」

「It's probably a magic scroll. But because it's written in ancient magic language, I can only read part of it.....」

I see. So that's why me? I immediately took a glass from the table, a silver coin from my wallet, and used modeling to make some glasses. When the glasses were finished, I 「Enchanted」 them with 「Reading」 and completed the translation glasses.

They're different than the ones I gave to Charlotte though, she had ancient language of the spirits and these have ancient magic language. I didn't have a clue as to how they were any different.

I handed her the completed glasses. Lindsey wore them when she took them, they made her look like a book girl and they looked nice on her. This kind of Lindsey is cute too.

The woman wearing glasses opened the magic scroll and looked at it.

「...! This is amazing! I had heard about them but, I can read it without pausing.」

Lindsey scrolled down the page in and said in an astonished voice.

「What does it say?」

「It's a single ancient magic. It looks like it's a water attribute magic.....Bubble bomb.....It's an attack magic.」

Lindsey groaned while reading the scroll. Apparently it was a great help. It didn't really help with the guilt from peeping however, but I think it was a little compensation.

Lindsey said she wanted to try it out immediately but there wasn't any time after this and I would be her partner tomorrow as well, she gave up on today.

As soon as Lindsey left the room, I immediately erased the photo of the inside of her bedroom. It wasn't really destruction of the evidence. I just don't want the title of "Peeping Tom jerk".

But it's that isn't it..... [Aport] for theft... 「Long Sense」 for peeping... 「Gate」 for burglary. With the camera app and 「Long Sense」 combined for peeping photos..... I think my criminal skill set is rapidly increasing.....

I swore in my heart to refrain from suspicious action.

The next day, I went the Eastern Forest with Lindsey. It was easy to get to with "Gate" and we went to an appropriately deserted looking spot. We won't be using fire attribute magic because of the risk of forest fire of course.

After arriving at an open place, Lindsey took out the scroll from yesterday. She read the scroll several times wearing the translation glasses, using a silver wand she began to concentrate magic.

"Come forth Water, Impact the surface, Bubble bomb"

A small mass of water swelled around Lindsey's wand but it fell to the ground. It was probably a failure.

She concentrated magic once more and repeated it

"Come forth Water, Impact the surface, Bubble bomb"

Several balls of water appeared around the wand, and in the same

way they simply fell to the ground. Another failure huh? Well, with ancient magic, it's not something you can learn very quickly.

Lindsey read the scroll again and tried again. And then failed again.

Although she tried many time after that, all she could do was gather water in small balls only to have them fall to the ground again. A succession of errors.

After her 10th attempt she accidentally staggers and catches herself on her knee. I rush up to catcher in a panic.

"Lindsey! Are you alright?"

"I- I'm alright. I just ran out of magic....If I rest for a little while..... it will recover....."

Lindsey answers absent mindedly; there was no strength in her response. This is what it looks like when you've run out of magic? We can't leave it like this.

".....Ah...! To- Touya-san...!?"

As her consciousness faded I opened "Gate". Did Lindsey, in my arms, hurt anywhere, was she sore? She was a little red in the face but she'll just have to bear it for a little while.

I entered 「The Silver Moon」 from the backyard and went up the stairs and opened Lindsey's room door. There I laid her on the bed in the corner so she could sleep. Her face is still red but she should be alright? I measured her temperature with my hand on her forehead.

".....Ha, Hauu.....!"

"There isn't any fever. Wait a bit, I'll call Elsie right now."

I called Elsie over and she removed Lindsey's equipment. I who shouldn't even be touching the body so I couldn't remove the equipment.

I left the rest to Elsie and left Lindsey's room. To practice until your magic ran out. Whether its diligence or for dear life. Whether it's Charlotte or another wizard, are there a lot of people with this kind of straight character? Mostly just single-minded though.

The next day, Lindsey was complete recovered. Magic recovery typically takes about a day to completely recover.

“...Yesterday, I’m sorry to have caused you trouble!”

Although that happened yesterday Lindsey humbly apologized, I don’t think there is anything she needs to apologize for?

The following day we went back out to the forest, and did the same thing again.

Lindsey failed and tried again, failed and tried again. I kept watch over her the entire time. After her 9th attempt, I made Lindsey take a rest...

「You need to rest a little while, Lindsey」

「.....Ok」

I brought over a flask that had some tea and handed it to Lindsey.

「Do you think you’re starting to understand it?」

「...No, not at all. All magic controlled by the knowledge of that magic, because it has a big effect, because I haven’t seen it it’s quite difficult...」

I see. Regardless of the magic, unless you’ve actually seen the magic you can’t get a clear picture of it.

After about a 1 hour break, the magic hadn’t really recovered, after only failing twice Lindsey was tottering around.

The day after that and the day after that. Every day practicing for only an hour, Lindsey’s magic runs out and she has to take a long rest. Honestly, I don’t think it’s very efficient. (tl; I can’t imagine why)

「Even still, you’re really trying Lindsey. Even after you’ve failed so many times you’re still trying.」

「I, it’s because I’m clumsy... after I repeat the same thing many times... I’ll finally remember the magic. It’s how I’ve always done it. So, this isn’t that big of a deal.」

Lindsey said with a laugh. She’s strong, this girl. The power of concentration. It’s important to understand that it’s important not to give up and that it will help you grow.

But, it’s certainly true that it’s still inefficient. To practice this many more times..... Well... Why don’t we go ask Charlotte? She is the

countries #1 wizard after all.

Before she ran out of magic, I stopped the practice and returned to hotel with Lindsey and took Yumina through the “Gate” to the castle to see Charlotte. Without Yumina it would have been difficult to walk around in the castle.....We would have been completely suspicious people....

Charlotte was in the castle’s research tower but she had heavy bags under her eyes. Apparently she hadn’t been getting much rest. Even still she decided to listen to us, although she asked for something in return. At a later date, I needed to help Charlotte with her research...

The next day, I went with Lindsey back out to the Eastern Forest. She practiced the same as always, and had repeated failures. Just before she exhausted her magic, Lindsey voluntarily ended the practice. Now it’s my turn.

「Lindsey, come here」

「? ...what is it?」

I grasped Lindsey with both hands and hugged her tightly.

「Fu, fua!? What are you doing!?!」

「Calm down. Relax.」

「Relax!?!」

「Ah-... release the tension in your body」

In a panic Lindsey relaxed her body and I concentrated magic into Lindsey and used the technique that Charlotte had shown me. Both of my hands glowed faintly.

「Transfer」

「Eh!?!」

From my hands shifted the glow to Lindsey’s body, and Lindsey received it surprised and raised her voice. Apparently it worked.

「The magic...it recovered. No way... in an instant?」

The no-attribute magic “Transfer” transfers one’s own magic to another person. Apparently Charlotte’s master taught her this magic and she had used it on several other people.

Use magic until she was ready to fall over then get recovered, use magic until she was ready to fall over then get recovered. What a demon, that person.

But here I was, doing the exact same thing to Lindsey. Although it wasn't forced the way Charlotte's master did it.

I recovered her consciousness for the first time, however the amount of magic transferred to Lindsey isn't nearly the amount required to maintain Kohaku's existence. In other words it was in the range of natural recovery. Lindsey's magic amount was in no ways small. Just how much is it, my magic quantity.....?

Anyways, with this Lindsey could continue training without worrying about running out of magic, and could continue practicing it.

「Come forth Water, Impact the surface, Bubble bomb」

After that, for hours on end, Lindsey kept practicing that magic. She had amazing concentration. However, even if her magic level is fine her physical strength won't hold out.

For the moment lets rest.

「It's hard after all.... I just can't seem to get the outline of the spell....」

「I see.....」

It's difficult after all. Ancient magic that is. Well, there isn't anyone that practices that magic anymore so there aren't any examples of it. If you aren't able to form your own image you won't really be able to get very far.

「...If I at least knew what Bubble Bomb meant.....」

「.....What?」

Lindsey admitted aloud while sighing. Eh? What do you mean?

「The meaning of bubble bomb?」

「? Yes. The name of a particular magic has significance. For example "Fire storm" has "fire" or flame.....」

「Wait wait wait wait, janakute」

Huh? English ... and the like aren't translated? Not the meaning but rather the reading of the words are transmitted directly?

I borrowed the scroll from Lindsey... and read it with 「Reading」..... it reads “bubble bomb” in katakana. I see, so that’s how it is.... Which means they don’t even understand the meaning of the word 「fireball」. 「Fireball」「Fire arrow」「Fire storm」 etcetera have “Fire” (ファイア) or fire (火) which at least they seem to understand but. Eh? Then everyone has been screaming words for magic that they don’t even understand? What a strange story..... I don’t get it. Didn’t other people use English words? Ice (アイス)= ice(氷), that’s for certain. Dear God, the translation function is strange. Bubble and bomb are the only strange ones? Neither of them are really used in every day conversations....

「? What’s wrong?」

「Ah, well..... “bubble” means bubble (泡) and “bomb” means bomb (爆弾,bakudan).」

「Bomb?」

「Ah- it’s something that explodes, I guess. It’s like the “explosion” magic that you use.」

After I finished explaining to Lindsey who remained silent in thought, she lifted her head, and set her wand up and began to use her magic again.

「Come forth Water, Impact the surface, Bubble bomb」

A single mass of water surrounds the wand... no, ball like soap bubbles begin to drift away from it lightly.

The ball was about 20cm in diameter. It appeared that Lindsey could move them at will, as well as drift freely in the air, after a while she threw one of the balls at a tree.

In an instant, there was an extraordinary impact explosion and the tree was blown to pieces.

We stared at the carnage, dumbfounded for a moment, then Lindsey muttered.

「...I did it.....」

This ancient magic 「bubble bomb」 huh? What unbelievable power.....

Lindsey practiced bubble bomb one more time. This time she made 6 more bubbles at the same time then she sent them toward the

trees, when the first bubble hit the tree all the bubbles exploded in a chain reaction and the trees were blown away.

What unthinkable power..... Then Lindsey turned toward me and bowed her head.

「Touya-san, thanks to you I was able to complete this. Thank you」

「No, it was thanks to your own efforts which you stood true to. I only helped a little.」

It's embarrassing to be thanked again. When I think about how she kept challenging herself over and over again I realized how amazing Lindsey is. For one to be so hardworking, she's really growing up steadily. This is that girl's essence.

I'm glad I got to know a new side of Lindsey. Thinking that I opened the gate back to 「The Silver Moon」.

Chapter 33: Gauntlets and Goth Loli

「U—n...I give up.....」

Elise had a difficult face as she looked troubled. At the dining room table was the presence of a woman, who stared longingly at her favorite gauntlets. However, it was the fist portion that had been damaged.

It happened during the fight with the demon yesterday. The demon who had a body of stone, a gargoyle. The gang of thieves had accurately manipulated dark attribute magic summoned it.

With the appearance of stone, we were surrounded by many of them, we fought hard. In any case, they were tough, swords didn't work. Magic only had a marginal effect, arrows didn't do any damage. The only thing that did any effective damage was Elsie's blunt force.

Part way through Lindsey used 「Explosion」and「Bubble Bomb」and blew them up using explosive magic. From the gaps I used 「Paralyze」 arts and rendered some of them immobile. After capturing the thieves and magician we sent them to the Guards at the Royal Capital.

Although we completed the guild's request, Elsie's favorite gauntlets were in this pitiful state.

「We'll have to buy some new ones.....」

「Then we should? I could repair them using 「modeling」however I wouldn't be able to restore the integrity of the metal; I think it would just break again.」

「Until now, these have been the ones most compatible with me.」

Elsie talked disappointingly. Well, it's sad when your favorite things break.

「What do you want to do? Go over to 「Kumaya's Armor Shop」and buy some new ones?」

「I already went. The they won't get the same type of gauntlet in stock for 5 days they said.」

That's pretty long. Well, even if you were to say gauntlets, gauntlets made for a full suit of armor are different than heavy plated gauntlets meant to hit things with, there just isn't any great demand for them. Elise fights with her fists Taijutsu style, in this world it would be called 「Arms warrior」they seem to be in the minority in this country. On the contrary, in Misumido there seem to be quite a few of them. The part human part beast has excellent physical strength. I've somehow come to understand that.

「Touya, take me to the Royal Capital. I can't wait for 5 days!」

So hasty. But I don't really mind. When you compare Lindsey to Elise, she's more of a “do it as the thought arises” kind of person. If Elsie were to strike a stone bridge, she would run over it before it broke apart. It was that kind of feeling.

「If it's the Capital then it's「Belukuto」I think..... Which reminds me the「Herculean Gauntlets」are endowed with magic.」

「Belkuto」is the shop that I bought the all attribute magic coat with that outrageous endowment that reduced all attribute magic attacks.

「Herculean Gauntlets?」

「If I remember correctly... they gave some kind of enhancement to physical strength.」

「What is that, I'm interested」

Elise's eyes glittered as we stood up, she grasped my hand and pulled me toward the backyard.

「Alright let's go! Let's go now! Yes we're departing!」

「Quick!? Do you have money!?」

「I just withdrew some from the guild a little while ago so it's fine!」

She really starts to move the moment she thinks of something! While being dragged, this girl really needs to settle down a little, is what I thought to myself.

「Hello, Welcome to 「Belkuto」」

I met the same oneesan who I had met last time I had come here. Unlike last time I didn't need to show my badge. Do you remember me? If so that's amazing.

Even though Elsie was standing beside me, she was recognized as my guest and was not asked to show her badge. That person was looking nervously around unexpectedly luxurious store. You should probably close your mouth.....

「How can we help you today?」

「U—m, are the 「Herculean Gauntlets」that I saw before still here?」

「I apologize. That item has already been sold.....」

Well shoot, how disappointing. Elsie who was beside me let out an 'Eh?'. Well, enchanted armor, unlike my coat wouldn't remain unsold.

「Are you looking for gloves?」

「Yes. However, we're looking for direct combat gauntlets.」

If you think about it, it's probably something that would be classified as a weapon, but it's still a kind of armor. It wouldn't be unusual to find some in an armor shop. I mean it's pretty obvious.

「Direct combat gauntlets is it? What kind of magical enchantments would you like to see on them?」

「There are others with magical enchantments? Can I see them?」

「Certainly. This way please」

The oneesan led us to a corner in the gallery. It was the place where I had found my coat.

The employee oneesan took out two sets of decorated gauntlets and arranged them on the counter.

One pair was a metallic green, they had a beautiful streamline design.

As for the other pair, they were red and gold, and they had an angled design.

This pair can avoid things like arrow attacks, they have wind attribute enchantment. Unfortunately they cannot avoid long distance magic attacks, they do have high magic defense however.

The employee picks up the metallic green gauntlets and explains. It

can avert long distance physical attacks? They can't avoid magical attacks but, instead they have high magical defense, so even if it were to hit the damage would be minimal?

「And with these, they accumulate magic and increase the destructive power of the blow. It takes time to accumulate magic, however because of they are enchanted these gauntlets will never be destroyed.」

This time she picked up the red and gold gauntlets and explained. Contrary to the metallic green ones, it has a higher attack value? Is it something like the attack accumulation like in a game?

Do you get the defensive ones or the offensive ones? It's a difficult question. If it were me, I would pick the metallic green ones and increase my defense. However, if it was Elsie, who had confidence, then she would probably pick the red and gold ones.

「I'll take them both」

「Eh!？」

I turn in surprise, I shifted my gaze to the two pairs of gauntlets to Elise beside me.

「You're going to buy them both?」

「They can be used on both hands. One of the right and one on the left, why not just equip them both?」

「What about the other set?」

「Leave those in reserve, of course. There might be a chance that one of them breaks like the last pair.」

Certainly, as long as they're used for direct attacks then that kind of thing might happen. However, when I point out that they would go on the opposite hands she replied, no problem.

To begin with, when using fists there is no such thing as only right or left-handed style. It would be something like a switch-hitter like in boxing.

「Very well. Please equip them and tell me if there is something wrong. We will adjust them」

「N, it's fine」

Elsie equipped both sets in sequential order and confirmed there were no problems.

「The green ones are 14 gold coins, the red and gold are 17 gold coins.」

That totals 31 gold coins. 3.1 million yen? It's as expensive as usual.....No they're enchanted so that's actually cheap? Every time my sense of money's value warps.

「.....Touya」

「What?」

「...Loan me 1 gold coin. I didn't bring enough」

「Check in advance.....」

I took out one gold coin from my wallet and handed it to Elsie.

Three white gold coins and one gold coin were presented to the employee and the bill was paid. The two sets of gauntlets were accepted and placed in the bag, which was a little bulky. Men being in charge of luggage carrying was the same in every world it seems.....

「Thank you very much. We await your return to our store next time.」

The employee showed us out of「Berukuto」and we left.

「It's the royal capital after all. There are nice things lined up here. They're expensive though.」

Elsie who was walking besides me was in a good mood. Well, we got what we came for, so it can't be helped to float a little?

But, for gauntlets are pretty heavy..... Should we slip into an alley, use gate and get back to the hotel quickly?

「Elsie, in that alley——」

Elsie who had been walking beside me, was nowhere to be seen.

「Huh?」

I looked around the area in a panic, in the very back Elsie was standing in front of a shop. She was watching something in the window. What could it be?

I doubled back, I took a look at what Elsie was staring at, this is?
It was a black jacket with white frills. The chest area had a large ribbon tie. And the miniskirt had a 3-step black frill with lace.
It's what you would call goth loli, but seems a little different.
Elsie continued to stare at the window.

「.....Do you want it?」
「He? Haua!? To-Touya!?」

She stepped back from be who had suddenly called out to, her face was red as she shouted. That is it, that reaction?

「A, um, th- this is! Right, Lindsey! I thought that this would look good on Lindsey! These clothes would look good on her wouldn't they? Unlike me!」

Elise vomits a string of words. Hee, an older sister that thinks of her younger sister.

「But if Lindsey would look good in them, then Elsie would look good in them too.」
「Na.....!」

Elsie blushes, her mouth flaps open and closed. Like I said what is it, that reaction? You're being suspicious.

「What are you saying? You can't compare me to Lindsey.....」
「Is that so? You're both cute, you're twins so that can't be」
「Cu...Cute...!? I mean, what are you saying!」

Dosuu! Elsie's fist buries itself in my side, Guu! That's considerably painful you know!

「Well...I mean...I think Elsie would look good in these clothes too.....」

I hold my side, enduring the pain as I explained. Huh, a greasy sweat came out?

「Even if someone like me were to put them on, they wouldn't look good on me...」
「That's not true」

「You don't have to be careful for my sake. I understand myself the best」

「No, like I said.....」

「I'm not like those well-matched type.....」

「Ah-mou! You'll understand if you put them on! I'm having you try them on!」

「Eh? Wa-! Touya!？」

I pulled the stubbornly obstinate woman by the hand and forcibly entered the shop. I had the employee oneesan bring out the clothes that were exhibited, and pushed them along with Elsie into the fitting room.

「Wa-! What are you doing!？」

「Come come, get changed」

The fitting room curtain closed, and I moved to a corner of the shop. I killed time by looking at belts and accessories displayed. After a while, the curtain to the fitting room opened timidly.

「Oo-」

There was a different than usual Elsie.

The goth loli cloths match the long silver hair and looked very good. See, it's just like I said isn't it? A girl so well matched is hard to come by.

「See, I don't look good in them. It's just like I said isn't it.....」

「Ha!? What are you saying?」

With absolutely no confidence she lowers her head and looks down, I exclaimed in amazement. How exactly do you come to that conclusion? She still won't admit it, this girl!

「It looks absurdly good on you! Doesn't it employee?」

「Yes, it looks very good on you. It's fantastic, customer」

The employee oneesan praised Elsie along with me. There should be a mirror in the fitting room, didn't she look at her own figure, this girl?

「Really.....?」

While blusing, she picks up her skirt and pirouettes slowly. Yep, it looks good after all. Cute.

Alright. I call the employee.

「Excuse me, can I have these clothes?」

「Eh?」

Elsie stood dumbfounded as I paid the employee. Three silver coins? That's not very much....

「Wa- wait Touya!? I don't intend to buy these you know!？」

「You're mistaken. I'm going to buy these. It's a present to Elsie」

These clothes suit you so well, do you really think I would leave without buying them? I want everyone else to see. I accepted the paper bag and handed it to Elsie. These were clothes bought that were meant to be worn.

After exiting the shop Elsie looks down shyly and expresses her gratitude.

「Thank you.....」

「Alright, let's head home quickly and show everyone else」

「Eh!? Wa- that's a little embarrassing..」

I took the dressed up Elsie and began to run.

When everyone was shown the new clothes, everyone said that they looked good on her. It's like that after all. I hadn't been mistaken when I saw them.

It's just, when everyone learned that it was me who paid for them, for some reason everyone else had complicated expressions and furthermore next time I would have to buy everyone else clothes too.
.....How did it turn out like this?

Chapter 34: Receiving a Title and People of the Royal Palace

Chapter 34: Receiving a Title and People of the Royal Palace

「It's from father. He would like for you to read this and then he would like for you to come to the royal palace.」

It was a letter that had arrived at the "The Silver Moon" by swift horse. After looking at it, Yumina said to me. I have a bad feeling about this, but I can't just ignore it.

「Why now again?」

「As remuneration for solving that last event, Touya-sama is to be given a title (of nobility).」

「「「A title!?!」」」

Elsie and the others shouted in surprise. It's that after all? That's right they did say something like that.

As I am the tentative fiancé of Princess Yumina, I need to have a title of moderate position. The fiancé (apparent) that is me has yet to be formally announced, it seems, and until then it seems some appearances need to be put in order, or so they say.

「Can I refuse?」

「You can still refuse, however in that case, they need to receive a formal reason as to why you refuse in person.」

「「「Refuse!?!」」」

The surprised girls shouted again. You girls are noisy.

「Even if you put aside the marriage, you shouldn't decline the title! It's such a waste!」

Elise expressed her honest opinion. But you know, having a title means I would become part of the nobility wouldn't it? I don't think it would suit me.

「...To become nobility means to serve the country. It would mean being obligated to govern territory and have responsibilities.」

Lindsey who was patting Kohaku's head muttered quietly. Yep, it's a bother after all. Let's refuse it.

「And, what do you say when you refuse – degozaru?」

「U-n, something like being an adventurer suits me better」

It sounds like a lie even to my, but that was the only thing I could think of. Because I wanted to avoid the parents' resentment, I thought that best to say. That in and of itself is pretty confusing.

「I think that will be fine. Father does not wish to force it either.」

「Well then, let's go」

Apparently he wanted Elsie and the others to come to the capital as well. Not as attendants to the awards ceremony, merely as an expression of gratitude to those who were looking after his daughter. At first the three refused in fear, but because it's certainly useful to be acquainted with the King

「What do you want to do Kohaku? Stay here and watch the house?」

『Me? If master says then I will stay.....』

「「「「No」」」」

Oh, rejected by the girl's group.

「We can't possibly leave Kohaku here」

「It's so sad, desu」

「Isn't he our companion too degozaru?」

「I will look after Kohaku-chan, please, Touya-san」

Kohaku is really popular. I'm so jealous. I must admit that his fluffiness knows no enemy, might as well take him with us.

I immediately open the Gate and go into Yumina's room in the Royal Palace.

Even though I said Yumina's Room, it wasn't a bedroom or a room for relaxation, this room was for receiving guests. I had gotten permission from the king to use this room for when I needed to use Gate, in advance.

When we came out of the room, the knights looked at us with

suspicion, but their attitude change after seeing Yumina.

After Walking for a while, Yumina opens the door at the end of the corridor, inside we found His Majesty the King, General Leon, and Olga-san the Misumido ambassador enjoying a cup of tea inside

「Father!」

「Oh, Yumina?」

After seeing Yumina, the King rushed from his chair and hugged his daughter

「You look happy, that's great!」

「Because I was by Touya-san's side there is no way I wouldn't be happy.」

Like I said, saying that is embarrassing... While blushing from Yumina's statement, I was called by the King.

「It has been a while, Touya-dono」

「Thank you」

「Are those behind you your companions? No need to be so formal, please raise your heads」

I turn around in response to the king's voice, and the other 3 were already doing a dogeza. You girls, it was the same reaction with Sue. But it didn't happen with Yumina. Well, that's probably because Yumina was the one who came home with me, shocking.....

「Touya-dono」

Before I knew it Olga-san had come close-by. Dazzling fox ears and tail as always. I started to wonder which one well feels better Kohaku or her, a rude thought floated in my mind.

「I wish to express my deep gratitude in this matter. You are the savior of His Majesty the King's life, at the same time the savior of our Misumido Kingdom. If you ever wish to visit my country then you will be welcomed.」

Olga-san bows deeply. No, I don't want to impose on the country. I don't want to stand out.

「Is Alma doing well?」

「Aa, she is. If I had known that Touya-dono was going to be here, then I would have brought her here.」

The disappointedly laughing face of Olga-san froze for a moment. Looking for the cause, she was looking at Kohaku, who we had brought with us.

「... Touya dono, this child is?」

「Oh, it is a tiger cub I am keeping, he is called Kohaku. Kohaku, say hi」

『Gau』

I agreed beforehand, with Kohaku would pretend to be a tiger cub. Explaining about a talking tiger would be bothersome.

While looking at Kohaku, Olga-san tilted her head suspiciously.

「Is something wrong?」

「Aa, well, in my Misumido Kingdom the white tiger is God's familiar, it is sacred. The white tigers are divine beasts in the family called 『Byakko』」

Well, to say nothing of the family it's the person himself... Oh yeah Yumina did say something about him being the king of beasts... Will it be alright if we take Kohaku to Misumido Kingdom I wonder?

I was suddenly I was slapped on the back. It's the general. Does he not know how to communicate with someone unless he hits them?

「Long time no see, Touya dono! I never thought you would be the princess's husband! You are really very interesting! How about I train you personally?」

「I am not the husband yet, I decline.」

I feel that my body would break if I were to train with this person. He's someone that slaps your back in lieu of a greeting. He's not a bad person though. Oh?

At the general's waist hung brownish gauntlets. It wasn't a clumsy display, rather it had the mood of a legendary hero.

「General ... that is?」

「Hmm? Oh, there will be a military training later. I use a gauntlet

since I am a melee fighter ... you didn't hear about me? I am known as "Flame Fist Leon"?」

Unfortunately, I didn't know. I also hadn't heard a single thing about it either. But different from my blank stare to the general, on my side there was someone who showed an excessive reaction.

「Oh, I know you! They say one person destroyed a large group of bandits in Merishia mountains, they say he had flame fists! Also, he had a fight to the death against a stone golem too!」

「Oh, you're very knowledgeable! Are you also a melee fighter? A female melee fighter is rare!」

The general looked at the excited Elsie's waste at the streamlined right and the asymmetric left gauntlets, and laughed happily.

「How about it? Do you want to participate in training after this?」

「I can participate!?!」

Elise nod with a big smile. She is happy to be able learn techniques from him. While looking at them the King called to me.

「By the way, Touya-dono, about the title...」

「I am honored by the offer but.....」

I feel bad for the King however, I'm still going to decline it after all. I have no intention of becoming a noble right now.

「Well I thought you were going to say that. As the savior of the King, it would look bad if I did not offer you something as a reward. Of course, if you really wanted to accept it, then it would be better than nothing.」

You're the king after all, I'm sure there were other things you could have done. I began to look at the King with pity a little when all of a sudden *ban* and the door burst open and someone flew into the room.

「I heard that Touya-san was here!」

Who was it but Charlotte-san. Her appearance from the last time I saw here was too different, for a moment I didn't know who it was.

The Jade-color hair was disheveled, there were deeper shadows under her eyes from the last time I saw her. She walked toward me at a frightening pace with bloodshot eyes behind the glasses. Scary. What is this, it's scary!

As to keep me from running away, she held my coat with one hand and presented several glasses and silver coins with the other.

「Excuse me! These glasses! Can I have two more, or 3 more pairs? I taught you “transfer” the other day didn't I? Didn't I?!!」

「Eh!? Well, I was certainly helped the other day! But, why!?」

Although I was considerably scared of Charlotte's ghastly appearance, I asked the question.

「Why? I can't keep up with the decipherment at all! There is a limit to what I can do alone! Impossible! It's impossible! No matter how much I decipher, and decipher, it never ends! How much you think there is?! How much you think there is?!」

Why twice!? Though she kept talking to me with misplaced anger, and I was going to do that for her!?

Since it was scary to argue with her, I obediently took the glass and silver coins, and I used modeling and enchantment, and made three more pairs of translation glasses.

「Thank you!」

As Charlotte's business was concluded, she snatched the just completed glasses and ran out of the room just as she had entered.

「Just in case, you need to maintain yourself properly, Charlotte. If it were to spread to the Teikoku then it would be a problem.」

「Understood!」

She cheerfully answered the king, and went away like a wind. What was that?

「Charlotte is really troublesome. After she got that tool, she shut herself up in her laboratory, her body will break sooner or later. If it stays like this we'll have to ask Touya-dono to use Recovery again」

It seems that I've unintentionally invented the hikikomori. The “when

they're obsessed with something, everything else disappears" type.

「...Just now..... That was Charlotte the court magician?」

Lindsey muttered while looking at the door. Well I can understand her feeling. She didn't look as one of the best magicians in the kingdom.

「I wanted to talk about the magic ... too bad」

「Oh, I wouldn't bother. If you were to say that to Charlotte-dono right now she'll lecture you for half a a day about ancient sprit's of the dead magic, and have to help with experiments. Why not wait till she's settled down.」

The general shakes his head. Surely, anything we were to say right now wouldn't reach her.

「Well, time to prepare for future ceremony. You will need to choose a suitable clothes, Touya-dono」

The King clapped twice and two maids appeared from the back door. Well, it's a troublesome.

「Lindsey and Yae what would you like to do? Wait here?」

「I will go to watch my sister's training.」

「I will join you as well degozaru.」

Okay, Everyone besides Yumina wants to go train? Kohaku is being left with Yumina it seems, shall we go and get changed quickly?

I was guided by a housemaid to the back room to change my clothes.

Chapter 35: A New Home, and Moving

I accepted a house. Even I didn't really understand it myself, anyway I accepted a single house. From who you ask? The King of course.

On the day of the title presentation, the scenario went like this:

「As the savior of my life I wish to grant you a title」

「I am unworthy of your words. I was just doing the utmost as my role as an adventurer」

「I see, therefore I will not force it upon you」

As previously planned, until here.

「However, I believe that it would be rude to my benefactor if I were to just send them home empty handed. Accordingly, I have prepared an estate and these (things) as a reward instead. Please receive them instead of the title.」(TIn: this part is supposed to be rather formal so I tried to write it accordingly.)

「Ha?」

As the King said this, an elderly gentleman stepped forward with a silver platter, a bag of money, the house (key) as well as other things rested upon it. While having my attention stolen by the King's words I, inadvertently, took everything just as they were.

I returned to my senses when I felt the weight of the bag but, the gentleman had already moved away, I missed the timing to give it back.

「Which such a large ceremony, I would have thought there would be more activity going on.」

And closed it.

「Western district, Palaran Way 21A..... The outer layers of the district are affluent as well.」

Yumina mutters while looking at the list.

At center of the Royal capital, resides is the Castle. The rest of the capital is it's divided into two parts, the inner and outer districts. In the inner district live the Royalty and the Aristocrats; persons such as great merchants live on the other side of the river in the outer district.

There are various kinds of people that live in the outer district, it is further divided in quarters, Eastern, Southern, and Western Districts (The water supply of the Royal Capital is in the north named Parrot Lake so there is no Northern District). The Western District is the area where many of the affluent live. That is where the estate, which had been accepted from the King, resided.

「And, what now?」

After having finished participating in the practice that had been offered by the general, Lindsey was fascinated when I went over to the watering hole to wash off sweat but, I still felt it hard to accept everything that had been offered.

「Is it really impossible to return it?」

「...Returning something that had once been accepted is extremely rude. It would crush the other party's honor」

Well, I see. It would be like, after accepting 「I don't like it after all, I'm returning it」. It's just as Lindsey said. I can do nothing but accept it huh?

In a corner of the training area in the castle, they were rolling around in the jungle of weeds. A cloud floated in the clear blue sky. It was the first time I'd seen it like this since I'd come to this world.

「Not just a house, but we received money as well.... What should we do with that amount?」

「How much was it?」

Yae asks me who was laying down.

「...20 King's gold pieces...」

「「20 King's gold! pieces?」」」

Elsie, Lindsey and Yae all let out a surprised voice in perfect

harmony. Well yeah, one would normally be surprised.

The King's gold coin is one step above the White gold coin, I heard that 1 King's gold coin = 10 White gold coins. It's so large that you would never be able to spend it normally at the market it seems.

Referring to my former world 1 King's gold is approximately equal 10 million yen. In other words in total it is 200 million yen. The King's life is worth 200 million yen. I'm not sure if that's high or not. Moreover, is this money the King's pocket money? I didn't ask whether or not he had earned it.

Could it be that these are betrothal presents...? After accepting them there is no longer any room to refuse marrying Yumina.....? Besides, isn't it usually the groom's side that hands over the money to the new wife's side? Well, because I'm becoming part of the family then its fine...? I don't get it any more.

For the time being, it's scary to carry that amount around, so I entrusted it to the duke.

「You already accepted the house, why not just retire?」

「That in and of itself is running headlong in to being a useless person I think.」

I lifted my upper body and answered Elsie with a sigh. Because there is money there is no need to work, I think it's a little different than that. Although it doesn't hurt to have money.

「Should we go take a look for the time being? It's about 30 minutes from here」

At Yumina's suggestion there was no one that opposed it, everyone decided to go see the house.

「Eh?...Here?」

I muttered unconsciously.

It was in the outer western district, the residence had been built to a nice commanding height. It had a red roof and whitewashed walls. It was a European-style 3-story fashionable building. This is nice. There are no complaints about the design either, placement wise it was a little away from the street and in all it was a good place that I am pleased with. However.....

「It's too big...」

Well, in comparison to Duke Orutorinde's residence or Viscount Sodoreku's house it was on the small side. Even still, it's the size that could be called a luxury home.

I used the key that I had accepted, opened the gate and entered the site. There was a wide garden with a lawn and a planted flower bed with various flowers in bloom all over, there was also a pond with a small fountain. On the other side of the garden a little away there was even a stable.

I opened the double doors and continued into the entrance hall, there was a red carpet that invited us up to the second floor.

「This is quite a nice house. I like it」

From within our group the only one used to this kind of environment, Yumina, said calmly while holding Kohaku. I followed up with my honest opinion.

「With such a big house, even just trying to clean it will be terrible..... even for 5 people living here it's still too big」

「「「Eh?」」」

Elsie, Lindsey, and Yea all stared at me in surprise. What?

「Umm..... Touya-dono? Could you be saying that by 5 people you mean we're going to live here as well degozaru?」

「?What do you mean "Could you be saying"? Isn't it obvious?」

What all of a sudden? There are so many rooms that I couldn't possible use them all. Elsie asked timidly.

「But, the King gave you this house. Isn't it for you to live together with Yumina?」

Aa—so that's what it is? The King is being overprotective of Yumina so therefore this house huh? I received a troublesome gift.

I don't dislike Yumina at all, it's just that I can't see her as a wife yet. If I had to say she was closer to a little sister right now.

Lindsey said to me in a small voice, while looking down.

「...If this is a house for people that like each other, then us living

here is a little...」

「Person I like you say. I like all 4 of you equally, I think you're like family to me. Therefore there shouldn't be a problem if everyone lives here.....」

Oh? Lindsey's face is red, what happened? I mean, Elsie and Yae's are red too?

「A, I'm going to look at the second floor!」

「I, I'm going to see if there's an attic...!」

「I-I-I'm going to go look at the kitchen, I'm really interested in it degozaru!」

Like little spiders, they all ran away, Why?

「I see. You like all 4 of use equally, like a family, is it? It's one step forward I suppose」

I looked at Yumina who was standing there with a big smile.

「Even though I'm going to become Touya's bride, I wish to walk with you through life. However, I do not intend to monopolize you, so this is fine. I'll go speak with everyone. Touya-san please wait in the living room」

Eh? What? What is happening? Yumina left Kohaku with me and went upstairs.

I don't really get it but... I'll go wait in the living room for the time being.

Along the way, I saw things like the bathroom, reception hall, pantry and wine cellar, it really is magnificent. Not a single shelf missing.

And opening the first door in the entry way was the living room. It really is wide..... It should be obvious but there was nothing save for drapes and the fireplace. I guess we'll have to arrange for thing to be purchased. Did the King foresee this and that was the reason for the money?

From the window on the wall to the terrace, you could see the western district and wide garden.

I opened the window off the terrace and a pleasant breeze blew in.

『It's a nice garden. It's as if to invite me to take a nap here』

Kohaku lies and rolls on the lawn.

「Do you like it?」

『Yes, very much』

Kohaku says so as well, this place isn't bad to live in. There are a lot of preparations that needed to be done though.

「Touya-san」

I turned around and saw everyone that Yumina had brought with her, but, for some reason none of the 3 girls would look directly at me. Why? Their faces still look a little red....

「A, um, Touya.... Is it really ok for us to live here?」

「? Of course」

「... you won't say something like get out, um, right?」

「I won't」

「You're going to treat us the same, um, as Yumina degozaru?」

「Naturally」

Why this now? I don't have any family in this world, but I fell that everyone is close to a real family. That is the truth.

.....But, why is everyone fidgeting like that? Certainly, there might be some mixed feelings about living in this house, however I've already received it, so there's nothing to be reserved about.

「Well then, everyone, we will all be living here. No need to rush so, let's just confirm the feelings from the previous discussion」

「Eh-」

「Yes」

「Ok degozaru」

With red faces the three nod affirmatively at Yumina's words. What do you mean by "confirm the feelings"? What the heck did you discuss?

「The discussion from earlier is... what?」

「『『『Secret』』』」

Again in unison? Really? Huh, could it be that the one with the weakest position in this house is me?

「Well then, shall we decide on the individual rooms?」

「My room is going to the one in the corner on the second floor.」

「I'll take the one on the interior of the third floor.」

「I'll use the one on the first floor facing the garden」

The girls talked excitedly. What is this since of alienation? Well, there are a lot of rooms so they should pick the one that they like. Even still, there are still a lot of rooms left over.

「Well, just us taking care of this house alone is questionable.....」

「Not possible」

「You say that so lightly.....」

Yumina answered quickly. Certainly, cleaning would be terrible. There's the work at the guild, even cleaning the garden wouldn't be possible.

「Therefore, lets employ some people. I know of a few」

If Yumina says so, why not just leave it to her? We certainly need people. If pull some from the palace then there is bound to be good talent.

Now then, shall we prepare to move? We can move the belongings with Gate. But we will still need to arrange for furniture right? There's nothing in this house after all.

Plus, there are people we are indebted to that we wish to give farewells to back in Leaflet.

In combination with recruiting employees, we decided to move in 3 days. It's going to be busy.

Chapter 36: Butler and servant employment

The day when we move to the capital arrived. We say goodbye to the people who we were indebted to, Mika and Dolan-san of [Silvermoon], Aeru-san of [Parent], Zanuck-san of [Fashion King Zanuck], Balal-san of [Weapon Shop Kumachi] and left the town of Leaflet.

The town I lived in the first time I came to this world. There are many different feelings. Even though I can come back anytime I want with [Gate], it's still deeply emotional.

Dolan-san said something about making this town the town of shougi. Because the King is enthusiastic about it as well, that aim might unexpectedly work.

I handed papers which is printed with designs of various clothes as a farewell gift to Zanuck-san. Clothes like the Nurse uniform or sailor uniforms might come out soon.it's not like I recommended them, Zanuck-san got really into it.

As for Aeru-san of [Parent] I gave her recipes for sweets and a few handy tools with [Modeling] to make those. Ice server, round, heart and star-shaped cutter as well as a torte cutter. I'll come to eat again when her new work is done.

Similarly, I gave Mika-san a kitchen knife, peeler, juice squeezer, grater, and various cooking recipes. With this, the destructive power of [Silvermoon's] meals will further increase.

When I parted from everybody and came back to the capital, several carriages stopped in front of the house and brought in furniture. When we appeared in the garden, Yumina, who was ordering the furniture movers around, noticed us and ran to greet us.

[Touya-san, good timing. There is a butler who wishes to be

employed here, would you come meet with him?]

[eh? now?]

From the terrace of the mansion when I was surprised, An old man with white hair and mustache which is hardened from head to toe with a black formal uniform approached. What's this? where have I seen him before...ah, when I got this house, it was this person that brought the money and the inventory.

[Pleasure of meeting you for the first time...no, should I say the second time. I am called Rime. Pleased to make your acquaintance.]

Rime-san bows his head deeply. He's probably in his late-60's? Unlike his movements which gives a youthful impression.

[Jiiya is the person who served father as a butler for many years. There are no problems for him to become the butler] (note: Jiiya is like Jii when Sue calls her butler)

[Eh!?]

Does that mean he took care of the king? It seems we've pulled in a person of outrageous class!

[Why has such a person also, come to something like ours.....]

[Nay, I cannot win against aging, at this time I have handed that role to my son. At that time the princess has given me an invitation. I think that it is not a bad idea to serve the savior of my younger brother for the remaining of my life.

[.....Younger brother?]

[He is called Reim. He serves His Imperial Highness Duke Ortholinde]

[Ah!, Reim-san from Sue's place!]

I see, I thought he looks similar to someone but, it was Reim-san. Two brothers also serving the King brothers. A butler brothers.

[How about it? Can we hire him?]

[No, we don't have any objections but..... Is that okay? Aren't there other places with better treatment?.....]

[No, I wish to be of service here. Pleasure of working with you from now on.]

Rime-san bows once more. Because there aren't any reason to decline, we entrust the management of the house and the supervision of the employees to him. We decided to leave all management responsibilities to him.

[Well then there is something I would like, danna-sama] (Note: master of the house)

[Stop with the danna-sama!?!]

[No, now that I am employed here, the master and servants relation must be made clearly defined. Therefore danna-sama, there are some capable people that I wish to employ, can you meet them?]

I wanted the master to stop but somehow it was futile. He was dead set on it. This person is a pro butler. Anyway, Rime-san left the mansion at a quick pace to the people he brought along. He's fast....

[We found a good butler haven't we]

Elsie went inside the mansion with her bagge. Lindsey and Yae followed, Yumina begins ordering the furniture that is being brought in.

I also head to my room, after putting down my own luggage I decided to help carrying them in.

My room is tentatively the most spacious on the second floor, but there is nothing other than the bed and closet, there is nothing. Or rather, there's a bed but no futon(duvet/comforter). Furniture like a cabinet, desk, chair and bookshelves should be brought in today. Naturally a futon as well.

Huh? I noticed just now but, with [Modelling] couldn't I just make things like chairs and dressers? Even if we don't have to pay large amount of money..... No, I would have to make them for

everybody. Pardon me from that. That's troublesome. I say the result is alright.

—

Which one will help me with unloading. I'll probably be troubled with only the heavy furniture. Apart from me there isn't any other manpower in the house. I have show my reliable side sometimes. (note: confused, thought they had helpers)

And so, while thinking that Elsie used [Boost] and casually carried the heavy furniture. Huh? Am I unneeded...?

Kuu, I'm not beaten yet. It's the man's pride when it comes to this. Likewise I too use [Boost] and begin carrying the furniture with the same momentum.

—

We decided to gather on the terrace to rest and have tea together after moving the furniture.

For now we finished carrying the furniture to our rooms and the main rooms, such as the living room, kitchen and parlour, etc. I only arrange the clothes and books that I've brought afterwards.

I had a competition with Elsie who used [Boost] to carry the competition but the victory went to Elsie. [Boost] is a non-attribute magic that raises one's physical ability by several times. However using the same magic, in the end it is still tied to one's original physical abilities.

Losing to a girl in physical strength is a really pitiful story...Should I train a little more....

I mean, I don't equal Elsie in physical strength, neither in magical knowledge and discipline with Lindsey, neither with Yae's swordplay or Yumina's archery and etiquette.....not good, it's getting depressing.

[Things have finally settled down]

[There are still various small things that is not good if we don't

buy.....]

[.....That is, let's buy them all together little by little]

[That's so, let's stop here for today.]

Certainly, we're still short on the small things. All kinds of things like everyday goods, tableware and detergent. In addition a bath tub... Ah, Is our cleaning tools also insufficient? Things like buckets and cleaning cloths, we haven't even brought one or two. We don't have garbage bins either. There are a lot of things we can't do without huh.

—

Everyone gathered to discuss what is needed and we put them down on a list. We will go buy it all together later. With that sense, when everyone was giving their opinion, Rime-san came and brought along several men and women from the gate.

[Master, these are the ones that I spoke to you about earlier de gozaimasu. Everyone's background are properly secure, would you please employ them]

It's still hard to get used to the danna-sama..... Can't we get him to change that somehow? When called something like danna-sama, it makes me feel old. I think it won't suit me for at least after about another 10 years....

[I have come from the maid guild, I am called Lapis. Pleasure to work with you]

[Likewise I have come from the maid guild, I am called Cecil ~, Pleasure to work with you~]

Two people wearing maid clothes bow their heads in front of me. Lapis-san is the one with a bob cut black hair with a diligent atmosphere and the light brown haired one with the sweetly smiling face is Cecil-san. Both are around 20 years old. The two of them are dressed in a maid outfit, on the head is the standard hair band called white brim.

Even so, there's such a thing like a maid guild.... They say all crimes including theft are caused by housemaids, they are given strict background check and training, it seems maids authorised by the guild are convenient.

I'm told they will do the cleaning and management of the house under Rime-san.

[I am the gardener Julio. This is my wife Claire]

[I'm Claire. The cook]

Next to greet us was a married couple in their late twenties.

A young man with blonde hair and a seemingly good natured attitude, the woman also looks good natured with red hair. They both look easy going.

It seems Julio-san is the son of Rime-san's friend. He will take care of managing the garden from flower grooming to the kitchen garden. The wife Claire-san is the exclusive cook who will prepare our meals.

It seems she was trained by apprenticeship to be able to make anything served to the nobles in the capital until now. Next time, shall I show her the recipe collection that I gave Mika-san.

[I'm Thomas. Former heavy infantryman of the kingdom]

[I'm Huck. Former light cavalry of the kingdom]

Ooh, heavy and light. The figure is the same as well. Both are around the 50's. It seems both of them are recently retired knights of the kingdom so Rime-san called out to them. It seems they'll alternate with the security and gate keeping. Because they are going to be watching the gate at night, I wonder if they are going to do a shift rotation system?

If it that's the case isn't it going to be going to be difficult with only two people? Should I employ one or two more people. Well, I'll leave that area to Rime-san.

Even so, Thomas and Huck...Tom and Huck huh. I have no doubt

that they were mischievous brats in their childhood.

There weren't any particular dissatisfaction, so I employed them as Rime-san said.

[Thomas and Huck has their home in the capital so they will commute here. I and the other four would like to live here, will that be alright?]

I accepted Rime-san's proposal. There are a lot of rooms so there's aren't any problems at all.

Since Julio-san and Claire-san are a couple, it would have been good for them to stay in one room, it was decided that they would stay in separate rooms. If it was in my old world they would have been given a house/room apart from the main house. I want you value the time you have as a couple.

—

I give allowance to each of them and ask them to buy all the necessary things. I handed separate money to Lapis-san and Claire-san, I asked Lapis-san to buy the general stuff in the list from earlier and Claire-san to buy the food and the cooking utensils.

Soon everyone else went shopping however, Rime-san wanted to do inspection so he went into the mansion. Since he's going to start working here, he says he wants to check everything, even up to the most trivial places, himself. I really bow my head to him.

[Things are somehow settling down huh]

Even though I'm not used to the house yet, it increased by seven servants. Is the money going to be alright? I have the money from the king so we should be alright for awhile.

Well, there's no point worrying about it.

[There's no problem if we leave it to Jiyaa. He hasn't been serving otou-sama since childhood for nothing.]

[I never thought that we would unexpectedly hire the person taking care of the king]

[I wonder if it's because they expect much from Touya-san]

Yumina naturally says with a face while drinking tea. That's even more pressure though.....

[.....But it wouldn't be possible for just us to manage this anyways.....I am grateful for a capable butler to come, desu]

Lindsey murmurs while giving cookies which was lined up on the table to Kohaku who is resting his head on top of her knees. Certainly right. He's going to take care of us in various ways from now on.

Nn? I heard the sound of a carriage that stopped at the gate. Is it Lapis-san and everyone that came back? Did they use a carriage because there was too much baggage?

While thinking that, Rime-san came towards us from inside the mansion.

[Danna-sama, His Highness Duke Ortholinde and young lady Sue has come]

[Eh? The Duke and Sue?]

This is the mansion's first official visitors. Now, I wonder what business for?

Chapter 37: The Duke's visit, and the Personal Request

Lime-san comes and announce the arrival of visitors, shortly, the duke and Sue arrived to the terrace from the garden.

「Ya, congratulations on moving in. Take care for us from now on neighbors」

The duke laughs cheerfully. Even though he is saying neighbor we live in the outer ward, and he lives in the inner district, it is pretty far away. Well, it's indeed closer when you compare the distance between the Capital and Leaflet.

「Long time no see, Sue」

「Good day, Yumina-neesama」

Yumina greets Sue. Oh right, those two are cousins. When I see the two of them lined up next to each other's, same blonde hair, they really resemble each other, as expected. Though their personalities quite different.

「When I learned of the engagement between Yumina-neesama and Touya. I was really astonished」

「I am the most surprised you know??」

I can't give up here. I still can't comprehend this yet. As the two of them sit at the table on the terrace, Lime-san comes with tea for both. Truly first class butler.

「I was planning on a marriage between Touya-dono and Sue. But you beat me to it. Yumina and elder brother totally beat me」

「You were thinking such a thing, Father? Well, if it's Touya then I would be very pleased. Being together would be so much fun」

「Oh, I see. Then, will you also accept Sue along with Yumina, Touya-dono?」

「Okay, that enough. Please don't get carried away, mou」

Although the Duke may be joking, the sparkle in Sue's eyes when she looks at me is troubling. I'd like to avoid making things any more confusing.

「Well, shall I withdraw for today. But with that I have one favor to ask you today.」

What do you mean by “for today”? Ignoring my scornful stare the duke continues.

「To tell you the truth, this time, we have decided to form an alliance with Misumido kingdom. I believe that we need to establish a location for conference between kings, but....」

A country of beastkin, the king of the beasts who govern the kingdom to the south, Misumido. The fox tribe of beastkin, Olga and her sister Alma country. I see, so you want to conclude an alliance? What a relief.

「For both king to talk, the fact is one of them must go to the other royal capital, which involve a certain risk. There is a chance of interference from an opposing party, also they may get attacked by demon beasts in the middle of their trip. And so」

「Touya-san's 「Gate」, Right?」

「As expected of Lindsey, right to the point」

The duke grinned and laughed as he drank tea. Yeah, certainly by using 「Gate」, they can move safely. However??

「But I can only use that magic to go to places I have already visited? You don't mean??」

I have bad feeling... rather, more like a nasty conviction.

「That's right. I would like you to go to the Misumido」

As I thought...I get it. I really get it. In fact, it's really convenient. I have to go there is the only limitation, without that I, I could establish my door to door delivery service company.

「How long does it take to travel to Misumido?」

「Well, let's see, around 6 days using carriage....」

Oh? Is it shorter than I thought?

「Well, that's to arrive at the Great River Gau, it's another 4 days from there to Misudimo's Capital? That's if everything goes smoothly though.」

It will take 10 days.... It is unexpectedly tough.... Even though I just got a house, I will have to go for a trip without being able to live in it, what is up with that?

「I will make this request the guild, I will make a direct request to assign it you guys. Of course you will get a reward, and your guild rank will also increase. I don't think it is a bad deal」

He's already taken care of everything hasn't he? Well, as a job class it's rather easy isn't it? I would also like to travel to other countries. It's certainly not a bad idea. And I also, want to see what kind of place Misumido kingdom is.

「I understood, I will take the request. What about you guys?」

Everyone nod in agreement; it seems there is no objection.

「Much appreciated, because the ambassador needs to return to her country, she will guide you to Misumido's Capital.」

「Olga-san is returning home? Then her younger sister Alma going back with her?」

「Well, the ambassador and her younger sister are coming with you guys, additionally you will be guarded with a group of knights, it was decided you all will be going to Misumido.」

I see. It is reassuring. According to what I learned so far, there is more nature in Misumido than Belfast, more like a jungle, and it seems there is many demon beasts too. Is that place like south America or Southeast Asia?

I wonder what kind of place it will be. The country of beastkin that no one has seen yet, Misumido kingdom. We are going there.

「But...I wonder if it will be alright de gozaru?」

「Is there something wrong? Yae?」

「They will know that you can use「Gate」over there, de gozaru. It is a magic that can invade anyplace without anyone knowing de gozaru?」

Forget about being cautious, there is a fear that you will be assassinated as a dangerous person....」

「C'mon, don't say a scary thing」

But, will they certainly have fears? I can't prevent holding such suspicions or it piling up

「No, will it be not okay? I confirmed with Charlotte-dono, that there are places you can't use「Gate」to travel to, Magical Barrier... you will not be able to go in the area inside the barrier. In that case, I don't think there will be a need to be that cautious about it」

The duke easily overturns Yae anxiety.

「Is that right? Touya?」

「...this is the first time I knew about this」

After hearing my answer Elise looks at me with amazed eyes. No, well, I remember when I used 「Gate」, I didn't know the effect or all the details!

「It seems even a small magic barrier can stop it. For example, if there is a small barrier around the Royal Capital, even though you can jump out from the castle town, you can't warp back to the Royal Capital. By the way, except for Yumina's room inside the castle, a barrier is already set up by Charlotte」

Whoa, she already made protection measure? Despite her appearance (being rude), indeed as expected of the court magician. She is not careless.

「...but if Touya san goes to any country, it is possible to send a large army with 「Gate」 to attack... from. As I thought, it is better they don't know about it. That's my opinion」

「Hmm... certainly. Like the glasses which you gave to Charlotte dono, ask them to give you something to cast the magic 「Gate」 on it」

Indeed. I can ask them to use a full length mirror to be used in the talks, afterwards, they can break it to remove their anxiety of the other party

If I create Mirror A and Mirror B that can be used to travel back and forth, and, with that as reason, perhaps it will be alright. Though one of the mirror need to be made after I arrive to the new location

「Then, shall we go with that? When is the departure?」

「Let me see?? How about after 3 days?」

「I understand」

Now, it appears we will be busy, as we must prepare for the long journey

「Lucky you, I wanted to go to Misumido's castle city as well」

Sue bites her finger enviously. I hope she doesn't say she wants to come with us. I am sorry, but I can't handle anymore troubles.

「When I come back I can travel back there at any time, so next time I will take Sue with me」

「Really!!? As I thought Touya is really reliable!」

As leaning on the table, Sue turns toward me with a big smile on her face. Because she is happy so much, I properly must keep my promise with her.

After in a meeting, we discussed the details of the trip to Misumido with the duke until the evening.

Arc 6: The demi-human country Misumido

Chapter 38: To the country of beastmen and surprise attack

The carriage shook and rattled on. Three wagon types of carriages with a considerably wide roofs connected together and pulled by two horses advanced on the highway.

The first one is belongs to Belfast, the third one belongs to the five Misumido guard escorts. And the one in the middle, carried it in are us and the Misumido ambassador Olga-san and her younger sister Alma.

On the coachman seat are the sisters Lindsey and Elsie, speaking of the rest of us, a dead heat fight begins to unfold.

「Ununu.....With this de gozaru!」

Yae turns the face down card.

But the number of the card on the table was of a different one.

「Too bad. The correct one is this and this desu」

Yumina turns over two cards consecutively in order. A 2 of spades and a 2 of hearts. She obtains the cards that she got correct.

Me and Olga was playing shougi while I give a sideways glance at Yumina, Yae and Alma who are playing shinkei-suijaku(pairs) with playing cards.

We had too much free time in the shaking carriage so I made shougi and playing cards with paper printed with 「Drawing 」and combined it with a thin wooden board made with「Modelling」.

Because I can't remember the hands in games like poker I can't play it, so I tried teaching those three a simple pairs games. However,

Yae was somehow weak when it came to memory games and lost consecutively.

「I lost again de gozaru.....」

「Yae doesn't look like she's suited for shinkei-suijaku」

I moved a piece in front while smiling wryly.

「Yes, checkmate」

「Aah...!」

Olga-san stares intensely at the board. It's useless. It's checkmate.

「I also lost huh.... The difference in ability with Touya-dono is too much」

Olga-san pouts and expresses dissatisfaction. No, you also have a weak point though. Olga-san only just learned it so of course I would win. However. It's scary that she will be stronger than me after a few more times of playing.

「Yae, change places with me. Why don't you try facing Olga?」

「That's right de gozaru na. If it's shougi, Dolan-san trained me back in 「Silvermoon」 de gozaru shi」

It was more like being forced to be played against rather than being trained though.

「Then it's not shinkei-suijaku this time, shall we do a different one?」

I swap places with Yae, Then I give Yumina and Alma an explanation of a new game while cutting the cards. The difficult game 「Baba-nuki (old maid)」 where tactics and strategy hold the key to victory.

『fuga.....』

Kohaku at the corner of the carriage sleeping peacefully.

The Two people who learned the rules were absorbed in Old Maid immediately, Yae and Olga appears to be evenly matched and glaring intensely at the board. With that feeling we go shaking straight to Misumido.

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「And so the puss in boots became a noble and lived happily ever after」

Everyone who surrounded the bonfire sent an applause when I finished the story. This is somewhat embarrassing. I only intended to tell a short story before sleeping but I intentionally overdid it.

「That was interesting! Touya-san!」

Alma's ears on top of her head goes pikopiko in excitement to express her thoughts. Her big tail also shakes in good spirits.

「That was a wonderful tale Touya-dono. However, where is this story from?」

「Ahh, A minstrel taught me at the place I lived in before」

Olga-san said suitably. It seems to be popular to the Misumido soldiers surrounding the bonfire. The puss in boots plays an outstanding performance in saving his master. A wise being that excels as a master swordsman.

In this world where demi-humans face discrimination, there probably isn't any story where a demi-human like this plays an active role.

「Touya-san also knows various stories besides this one」

「Really!? Please let us hear them, Touya-san!」

Alma leans forward with sparkling eyes from the words spoken by Yumina beside me. These two became really good friends huh. They seem to be the same age, is that why they can easily talk?

「It's already over for today. let's continue tomorrow」

I decline Alma's request gently while laughing. Then at that time, a single small sized Misumido soldier around the bonfire stood up, puts a finger in front of his mouth to silence everyone.

The ears on top of his head moves twitching. Are those.....rabbit ears? Is he, a rabbit demi-human.

「Something in several numbers are approaching.....They're erasing their presence little by little...It's clear that they are aiming

for us」

From those words, the surrounding soldiers draw their swords silently and start to move while being vigilant of the vicinity. The guards switch their formation with Olga-san and Alma in the center. The Belfast soldiers at the carriages draw their swords and strengthen their alertness.

「I wonder who it is?」

「They're probably a highway thief troupe. It'll be trouble if their numbers are many」

The captain of the Misumido escort soldiers answered my question. The captain is a dual sword user wolf demi-human.

《Master, it's certain that someone is coming towards us. It's very unlikely that this is someone friendly. Just like they said, they are probably 18-19 thieves.》

Kohaku that was nearby spoke in a voice that only I could hear. Thieves huh. Shall I go check for a little.

I take out my smartphone and launch the map application. A map with me at the center is projected. Err...for now, when I search with thief, pins fall on the map one after another. Oooh, there's a lot.

「North 8 people, east 5 people, south 8 people, west 7 people. There's 28 in total」

「You know that!?!」

The captain looks back toward me astonished. They are quite a few of them. We will probably win but, it is unlikely that we will come out unscathed.

「.....Shall I give it a try」

I decided to test the magic method I came up with recently. I think it'll be alright but.....

「Enchant: Multiple

Consecutive chant abbreviation, I bestow the non-attribute magic 「multiple」 that allows simultaneous invocation to the map application.

I use my finger on the touch screen to lock onto the thieves one by one. Locking onto all them is troublesome! Okay, finished!

「Paralyze!」

I release the last magic onto the targets on the map. In the next moment, I hear groans one over the other from the surrounding forest.

「Uguu!」

「Nuaa!」

「Gyaa!」

「Hau!」

「Aan!」 (note: cough)

I hear various voices, followed by clattering and sounds of falling were heard. I seem to have succeeded somehow.

「W, what did you do?」

「I used paralysis magic. I think they probably fell and can't move」

「Is it all of them!?」

「If there are only 28 of them」

The targets this time are the ones that I have judged to be a 「Thief」 only in this situation. Conversely speaking, if there was a thief-like common person then there's a possibility that they may get involved as well. Though I think there won't be anything like that in this situation as expected. Therefore I used 「Paralyze」 just in case.

The escort soldiers enter the forest and came dragging those guys. 28 people in total. All the members have a lizard tattoo on the back of their hands which is probably a mark of being in the thief troupe. There's no doubt that they're all accomplices.

「That was amazing...! All these numbers in an instant.....」

「No one had something like magic protection talismans so that saved me the trouble. Even a small magic protection can repel 「Paralyze」」

Olga-san murmurs and grumbles with a dumbfounded expression. It was good that the thieves didn't have talismans. But this method also has various problems. It was good that the opponents didn't move

intensely, because if their movement was too fast there's a possibility that they may slip past the target lock. And it's troublesome to lock onto them one by one.

「No, you've saved us. Good grief, you really surprised me」

「No, it was because that person noticed them from the beginning. You understand right?」

「Aah, Rain is it. That's because he's a rabbit demi-human. They have sharp ears」

The rabbit eared boy laughed while the captain was dragging the thieves. He has a small build with red hair and is about the same age as me. He's called Rain is it. By the way, it seems the wolf captain is called Garun-san.

「If it's human I think the paralysis will continue for half a day, what shall we do with these guys?」

「That's right, if this was Misumido it would be best to just kill them so that it doesn't become troublesome, is something like that not do」

Garun-san calls the Belfast guard captain. A blonde young man with clattering full body armor turned up. A considerably handsome man. Lyon Britts. Belonging to kingdom's first knight order. 21. The father's name is Leon Britts.....even now it's unbelievable that this person is the son of that General Leon. He seems to be the second son, with that general that looks heroic in his uniform, for this Lyon-san with this feeling of serious straightforwardness to be father and son.

Lyon-san who heard the circumstances from Garun-san thinks for a little while, before finally opening his mouth.

「Let's tie them up for now and send them to the guards in charge using the horses in the town ahead. We may come back with the guards in the morning, let's depart after we hand over the thieves?」

Garun-san didn't seem to have any objection so we decided in that direction. We gag and tie them behind their backs. I dug a hole with magic and buried them in the ground with their heads sticking out just to be safe. The paralysis still seem to be working, the result looks like a line of freshly severed heads.

「As for watching these fellows, we Misumodo will take care of guarding them as foreign invaders. Touya-dono I would like to leave the princess to you」

Lyon-san tells me in a low whisper secretly.

Just in case, the only ones that know that Yumina is the princess of Belfast, apart from us is just Olga-san and this Lyon-san. Since the other members doesn't seem to have met the princess, we're not worried of it leaking. Furthermore, only Lyon-san know my position as Yumina's fiancé(provisional). Although I haven't been told, perhaps Yumina's guard have probably received them.

「Lyon-dono, I'll take on that trouble」

Olga-san comes near and says thanks with a smile. Then, Lyon-san suddenly begun to get hurriedly impatient.

「Ah, no, this, this is my duty so therefore! Please, don't bother yourself with this!」

Just where has that calmness a while ago gone to, the blonde young man has his face becoming bright red, it enumerates with Olga-san's words. That beautiful fox giggles strangely while looking at his squirming.

Hahaan. So it was like that?

I left the place slowly so that it wasn't noticed by two those people. I observe them two talking while laughing before an open-air fire from the shadow of the carriage in secret.

「It's Youth huh—」

「It is youth de gozaru na—」

「...It's youth, desu」

「It's youth indeed」

You lot since when have you been here.....The twin sisters, the samurai girl, and Kohaku who was being held by yumina were similarly watching the two.

「I wonder if Olga-san notices Lyon-dono's feeling de gozaru kana?」

「I think she notices them—. She doesn't seem like someone thickheaded from somewhere」

Eh, why is everyone looking over here? I don't even know what you mean.

「.....Though he is thickheaded however, Touya-san is far too kind to everyone regardless of the situation」

「Ah, that's what I thought as well」

「I thought he also had this suggestive attitude de gozaru yo」

「Why don't you try to understand a little!? Sit here and listen!」 (note: seiza, sitting with knee on floor)

「Why!?!」

I can't comprehend. Why is this happening?

However I can't go against these girls without reason with the current situation, I was made to sit. I was subjected to a super lecture time. why?

I don't even understand what half of these girl's lecture are, it continued until near late at night.

Chapter 39: Great River Gau and Accessories

「It's a lie.....this is a river? This is a sea right.....」

As far as the eye can see is water, water, water. Land can be seen faintly beyond the horizon. It's that, it resembles the feeling when I saw Hokkaido from Cape Oma of Aomori that I went to in my childhood. If we assume that, is there an area at least the same as Tsugaru Strait....?

Six days after we departed, we finally arrive in Canaan, the southernmost town of Belfast Kingdom. From here we are to board a ship and head for the town of Langley of the Misumido Kingdom on the opposite bank.

However, as might be expected of the town that connects Belfast with Misumido, there's a lot of demi-humans in the middle of the town. Beginning with demi-humans such as dogs and cats, a winged person with the wings of a bird growing from their back, a horned person with horns on their forehead, there's ones with scales on parts of their body, there's also ones like demi-dragon's with thick tails.

It appears that demi-humans and humans seem to be able to get along peacefully in this town somehow.

When we arrived on the riverbank (although nothing but the harbor could be seen) there were various ships floating there. However, most of them are small-sized ships, among them were also medium sized ships and there doesn't seem to be any large-sized ships.

It looks like a sailing ship but, most of the things standing don't look like sails, it gives the image of a simple sailing boat. Because a person that can use wind attribute magic can get on in any ship, if you want to arrive at the opposite bank in two hours, it seems this kind of ship is enough.

We will entrust the carriages from here and use a ship to cross over to the Misumido side. Similarly, It seems carriages have also been

prepared on the other side.

I leave the boarding procedures to the people of Misumido, Olga-san and Garun-san, not far from the ship we're going to board, I get a view of the stalls opening on the street.

「Ah, handicrafts are sold there」

「This one...have various silk goods sold here」

Alma and Yumina beside me murmurs while looking at the merchandise being sold. It's because this is Belfast's last town. It can't be help that there's many souvenir shops.

「Oh? Touya-san, that.....」

「Nn?」

From Yumina's line of site is a stall with accessories such as brooches, rings and necklaces lined up, in front of it is Lyon-san who looks worried with a troubled face. He should've gone to send a letter to the Royal palace if I'm correct.

Lyon-san seems to be hesitating on which accessory to buy. But, those are for women right? ...ah, I see. So that was it is.

「Lyon-san, Is it a souvenir for your family?」

「eh? uh, Touya-dono!?, no, what, er~ mo, it's for my mother...that's right! right it's for mother, I was thinking of what I should buy for her.....」

「Hee—」

It can be seen through his splendidly flustered manner that the one he's giving a present to is not his mother. Well, let's give him a warriors mercy and not plunge in too deeply.

「There's a lot of accessories being sold huh. That's right. Alma choose one. It'll be my present to remember Belfast」

「Is it okay!?」

Alma gladly picks one brooch from the middle of the lined up accessories. It's a grapevine shaped brooch and fitted in the place of the fruits are amethysts. A fox and grapes.....that reminds me of a fairy tail.

「That suits you nicely, Alma」

「Ehehe, thank you very much」

I pay the the money to the vendor while looking at Alma who's laughing happily. And, from here Lyon-san probably decided to get information he needed to know.

「I wonder if Olga-san will like brooches like these?」

「Nn—, onee-chan likes designs with flowers. Especially this, she loves flowers like these Eriusu flowers, she buys them often」 (note: katakana 'eriusu' no idea what it is in english)

And while saying that, Alma points at one hair ornament lined up on the stall. It was coloured with a flower like cherry blossoms, it looks simple but it was a beautiful hair ornament.

Lyon-san's expression becomes joyful from those words. It was that afterall.

「Then, I'll go with this. Lyon-san should return to the ship earlier too. We're going to depart soon」

「Ah, yes. I'll return immediately」

We leave that spot and when I look back after a while, Lyon-san buys the Eriusu hair ornament from the vendor, I can see from the distance that he received it wrapped up.

「That was splendid, Touya-san」

I received praise from Yumina. Was I found out? Although the younger sister of his sweetheart doesn't seem to have noticed.

「It is just, I had also wanted a present from there」

「.....Sorry」

「Well, If I receive a ring on the 4th finger of my left hand sooner or later, I'll be satisfied with that」

With a face overflowing with a smile Yumina comes and clings on my arm. Should I have bought an accessory....? The penalty is too huge.

While thinking about that, we returned to our boarding ship.

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「We arrived here in no time ne」

「It's because one way is just two hours de gozaru na」

While Elsie and Yae says so, they get off the ship carrying a box containing a full-length mirror we're giving to the King. Also followed by Alma and Yumina carrying the luggage, Kohaku also gets off, last is me to get off the ship carrying Lindsey.

「...Sorry, Touya-san.....」

「It's fine, it's fine. Don't mind it」

Lindsey got seasick about one hour after boarding the ship. From reading books inside the ship.... I attempted [Recovery] just to try it but it didn't seem to have an effect. I think this is also an abnormal state. Why is that?

She's okay on the shaking carriage, but not good on the swaying ship. Well, I also know someone who doesn't get sick on a car but gets sick in a ship, is it similar to something like this?

We looked around the town of Langley after we disembark. This is already the demi-human country Misumido Kingdom. It only took two hours to cross over with the ship, although there aren't any real sudden changes, there are a lot more demi-humans than humans in Canaan compared to the nearby town Belfast.

There are merchants opening stalls in the same way as the other side, but most were demi-humans. Overflowing with various races. It's amazing.

「The town is bigger than I thought」

「...Is it because this place is still close to Belfast?」

Lindsey gives a small reply from my murmur. When we advance according to Olga-san's leading while observing the town, in the town of Canaan, three carriages, similar to the carriages we left, were parked in there.

「What shall we do, Touya-san. If Lindsey-san's condition is bad, shall we rest for today then depart tomorrow?」

Ol'ga calls out anxiously.

「Aaah, mou, I'm alright, desu. I've become a little better when I got off the ship」

Lindsey climbs off my back. And, Elsie laughs with a sususu...comes closer, then says to her younger sister.

「It's okay to get piggybacked some more, Lindsey～」

「, onee-chan, wh- what are you saying!? Are you saying!?!」

Lindsey raises her voice in defiance. Though I don't know even if she doesn't turn this way, her ears are bright red. Well, being piggybacked continuously is embarrassing as well.

「Well then, let's leave in one hour. I will go send a letter to His majesty, the Beast King in the meantime」

「Ah, th, then I will also follow. Since I don't know what is there!」

「Yes. Then Lyon-dono too」

Those two begin to walk together with their laughter slipping out. Somehow this makes you have a pleasant feeling. I can somewhat start to understand the feeling of someone who lives as a matchmaker for marriage interviews.

「Touya-dono, shortly from here there won't be any large towns, I think you should buy the necessary things now」

Says Garun-san the wolf demi-human guard captain of Misumido, so we each decided to go shopping and meet here one hour later.

Bringing Kohaku along, I bought emergency rations and small things including the tea-leaves with Yumina from the street stalls.....Nn?

I sharpen my senses while looking around in the vicinity.Was it my imagination?

「Did something happen?」

Yumina called out to my strange behaviour.

「No...It felt like there was someone watching us....Seems it was my imagination」

「Wasn't it because they saw something unusual like Kohaku-chan?」

White tigers in the Misumido kingdom are regarded as sacred

beings. You can't kill them and you can't capture them either. Supposing If I was taking Kohaku along with a chain attached to his neck I would be criticised. In the end, it must be understood that Kohaku is following out of his own free-will. What a pain.

《No, master. Someone was surely watching our actions. Not me, but Master and everyone. But now that presence has been completely erased》

I look around the vicinity once more from Kohaku's telepathic communication. I wonder who that was. Just in case we better be careful.

After that I bought about ten of a fruit (Appearance is like a pear, colour is orange and the smell of apples) I've never seen before and came back to where everyone was.

Everyone was already at the carriage, it seems I was the last one.

「Now that everyone is here. Well then let's depart」

When Olga-san say so , the escort soldiers began boarding the carriages on the front and back. With us in the middle carriage. Elsie and Yae goes to sit in the coach seat, and when everyone else was going to get in a passenger car, I found the hair ornament that's decorated with flowers that look like cherry blossoms in Olga-san's hair.

「Ara, that hair ornament is wonderful. It really suits you」

「Eh? I, I see, thank you very much」

Yumina catches sight of the hair ornament quickly and praises it, Olga laughs with some slight embarrassment. Lyon-san must've given it when they went to go alone. You did it.

「I also want to receive a hair ornament like that from a person in my heart. I think that it is admirable of gentlemen to give such a present as an indication of their feelings. Naturally, If it was expressed in their attitude like giving an embrace is better than nothing.....」

「Who knows, let's depart!」

Since the turn of affairs of the conversation has become strange, I got into the passenger's seat quickly. She may unexpectedly be the

type to hold a grudge. Alma was the only one I gave a present to indeed, it was bad that I didn't give anything to Yumina—.... (note: yandere incoming)

Having said that, it is probably unlikely that I can give an embrace as substitute. I have have to think of something.....wait, this time it might turn out badly if I only give a present to Yumina.

It will probably be bad if it was mistaken as a present to a lover. If I also give it to the three other girls, I wonder if it won't worsen if I give them as a form of appreciation.

I use [Modeling] to make a present to give to four people, I begun to check the latest accessories with the image search of the smartphone when I boarded the passenger carriage.

Chapter 40: The Jungle and Invasion Threat

Soon after leaving the town Langley, the landscape changed completely. There's so much green unlike Belfast. The three carriages advance inside a forest that you could call a jungle.

I feel like I can understand the meaning that there are more magical beasts in Misumido than in Belfast. This forest is probably the ideal habitat for magical beasts. Sometimes, you can hear the unknown howling of animals but, it seems this is an everyday occurrence in this country.

The magical beasts seems to be numerous but, the damage to human settlements seems to be none. That means that the prey for the magical beasts is abundant in the this forest. They couldn't be bothered won't expressively descend on human settlements to devastate their fields to eat.

However, the villagers who enter the forest to hunt game, seem to unluckily end up encountering magical beasts frequently. In this case, they become the trespassers, they will have to be prepared to be attacked. I wonder if it's somehow unavoidable to have something like a bear repellent bell or something.

[It seems to be impossible we'll arrive at Eldo village by nightfall]

From Olga-san's words, on the highway leading to the capital from the town of Langley, there was a village of Eldo before leaving the forest when I checked using the map application. Certainly, it'll be impossible to cover this distance by nightfall at this speed.

[Misumido was the result of many tribes gathering together, so it's something like a colony so to speak. Each of the tribes still form villages or towns even now, if there are any clans friendly to each other, there are also clan that dislike each other. The ones who bring them together are the seven chieftains including His Majesty the King]

According to Olga-san's explanation, there are seven chieftains of the seven major clans, they are the beast clan, winged clan, horned clan, dragon clan, tree clan, aquatic clan and the fairy clan. At this moment it seems the head of the beast clan, the beast king seems to have become the king of this country.

Although the throne was tentatively a hereditary system, the other 6 patriarchs held strong authority. They're something like influential nobles. It's still a new nation so there are still many problems they say.

Eventually the day grew long. It would be best to get preparations for camp ready before it got dark. This is all for today.

The path was opened a little and the wagon was stopped and preparations for camp began. Gathering wood for fuel, there was a small range made of stone, I also participated and made vegetable soup (Minestrone) in a large pot.

When it was completely dark, and night had come, there were many noises from the forest. There seems to be a lot of nocturnal beasts.

「It's a little scary isn't it?.....」

While Yumina was drinking soup I made, she drew up close.

「As long as Kohaku is with us no normal beasts will approach us. He'll understand immediately if it's a demon beast. He's bad with giant slimes and bugs though apparently」

I told Yumina what Kohaku told me telepathically. Then she lifts Kohaku in her arms and hugs him tight.

「Thank you, Kohaku-chan」

『Please be at ease, madam. You'll be safe if I am here.』

As for others not to hear it, Kohaku spoke in a soft voice. At those words Yumina patted Kohaku's head.

Although the watch was changed several times to give people time to eat, the Belfast group were a little nervous because they were escorting in an unknown land.

「I should go get Yae and Elise soon. Kohaku, please take care of Yumina and Lindsey」

《As you wish》

I seperated from everyone around the fire, entered the carriage, used gate to the Belfast capital, Alfesu and returned home.

When I appeared in the living room, Elsie and Yae were completely relaxed. Close by was, our super butler, Raimu-san.

「Aa, is it time already?」

「Stop moving around degozaru.... your hair isn't dry yet degozaru」

That's right. These two had just returned from the bath. I used 「Gate」 without others knowing about it...we decided on 30 minutes. I used magic and brought out some water, then heated it with hot stones in a tub, this was camouflage so they could take a normal bath at home. The reason there are two people at a time is so they can take baths in shifts.

「Hey, let's hurry back while the others haven't noticed us. Raimu-san did something happen today?」

「No, nothing in particular. Aa, Julio wants to grow vegetables in a corner of the garden, would that be alright?」

The kitchen garden huh? I want to eat some freshly harvested vegetables.

「Alright, I permit it. Please do as you like」

「Alright, I'll do that」

Even still the maids Lapis-san nor Cecil-san seem to be here. I wonder why that is. I asked Laimu-san about the two, Lapis-san was going to the market quickly in the morning and had already gone to bed, and Cecil-san had gone to the capital to meet a friend.

「If you have any orders please tell them」

「No, there was just something I'm worried about it. Come on, let's go you two.」

I opened the gate, and came out inside the carriage. Somehow the situation is strange. The forest is noisy, various animals were crying nearby. This is definitely weird. What in the world is going on with all the crying?

I dashed out from the carriage and joined everyone else. The guards had their swords drawn and were watching the area close by. What

on earth is going to happen?

「Touya-san!」

「What happened ! ? 」

「I don't know. The forest animals are suddenly going berserk.....」

Yumina let out a perplexed expression. Just then, the rabbit demi-human Rein-san, who beside me, suddenly lifted his head.

「Something big is coming.....in the sky!」

Everyone looked up to the sky with Rein-san's shout. A sudden gust rustled the treetops, overhead, high in the sky there was something big, that could be flying leisurely.

「A dragon.....could it be, here!?!」

Garun-san looking at the sky unconsciously said that. His eyes were wide with disbelief at the sight.

A Dragon. That's the thing flying in the sky?

「Why is there a dragon there.....!?!」

「What do you mean? Don't things like that usually come here?」

Olga-san muttered while her voice trembles, her mouth was opened while embracing her frightened younger sister closely.

「Dragons normally live in the sanctuary at the center of this country. That being the dragon's territory as long as no one enters there, or a dragon intrude out here then they won't start acting violently. This is how we are supposed to have divided the living area

「Did someone disturb the sanctuary!?!」

At Olga-san's words Garun-san spoke. Is this response of the dragons for someone invading the sanctuary? Isn't this bad?

Perhaps it's retaliation. If our area had been ruined, then we might think about trying to repay the ones that did it.

However, Olga-san shakes her head and rejects the idea.

「No, not necessarily. Once every several years, a young dragon appears in the village, and starts rampaging. Even if we were to repulse a dragon that had left the sanctuary, the other dragons

would never retaliate. In this case they are the intruder. But still.....」
「Is a dragon something you can even repulse?」

Garun responded to the question that I had posed.

「In the Royal Palace Warrior Corp.....if there 100 warriors, then somehow. However if were to just half-heatedly attack then it would just make it angry.」

Misumido's warrior corps are 100 members. To need all of them to somehow repulse it... is it that strong.....? The line of thinking that the dragon running wild is a youngling. Even within the dragons there are naughty wild brats huh? Seriously a pain. This is nothing less than a natural disaster.

I took out the smartphone, started the map application... search 「Dragon」

There many hits in the center of Misumido, is that area the sanctuary? And other than that the only other one was the one flying leisurely over us toward.....

「Oi...that guy is heading straight toward Eldo village.....!」

「What did you say!?!」

Everyone shouted in surprise at what I had just said.

「What's in Eldo village!?!」

「It has a pasture belt extending to the south. Is it aiming for the animals!?!」

I'm not sure if they're sheep or cows but if it started attacking the animals it might leave the village alone, but Garun-san tore my naive thinking to shreds.

「Once a dragon has a taste it will keep attacking the same place. Also that guy sees both animals and us as feed. It may even have a preference right?」

At this rate the village is going to be annihilated.....?! The range of a Smartphone remote magic attack has its limits. If it's this far away it's impossible.

「What shall we do? Our duty is to guard the ambassador. We

cannot allow our ambassador to face such a dangerous situation.....」

At Lyon-san's words Garun-san clenched his teeth. For ones that serve the country orders from those above are absolute. Should they carelessly go toward the village and something were to happen to Olga-san, it wouldn't just be a question about diplomatic relations. Even still just leaving half the guards here and sending the other half to rescue the village isn't.....

Even if I were to enchant the map app with Gate, for the transport point...if I don't have the image of Eldo village firmly in my mind I can't go there. What should we do.....?

「Can we do nothing, Touya-dono...」

「Even if you ask that.....」

At Yae's words I folded my arms, think. If it's just us then we can certainly do something. We didn't accept this as a order by the country but merely as a request from the guild. Furthermore it wasn't a request to guard Olga-san. We're to deliver the fake magic transport mirror to the King of Misumido.....

That's it! It's come down to this!

I pulled from the carriage a full length mirror, and stood it against the body of the carriage.

「Touya-dono, this is?」

Lyon-san points dubiously in front of everyone. Everyone else similarly cocked their heads in puzzlement.

「Etto, this is called a 「Transportation Mirror」, there are 2 in per set. The other is in mirror is in the Belfast Royal Palace, and using this mirror it is possible to be transported there instantly. How about using this and using the Royal palace as shelter for Olga-san and Alma?」

「You brought this kind of thing.....?」

「It was our job to deliver this to the King of Misumido. We have permission to use this in an emergency」

I lied on the fly while thinking it throught. I told them that this can only

be used round trip once per day, it can't transport many people, so I tried to appeal this thing's safety. Mainly to the Misumido's soldiers.

「I understand. We will use this and take temporary shelter in the Royal palace. And then everyone shall lead the villagers to safety.....」

「Understood. Please, Touya-dono」

Garun-san nods at Olga-san's decision.

「I understand. Then will Olga-san, Alma, and Yumina...and to see the other side, can I have Garun-san come with me?」

Garun-san leaked an insecure voice. While hearing that, I applied my hand to the mirror.

「Gate」

I activated the magic in a small voice that couldn't be heard by those around me. I made the gate light appear several centimeters above the mirror. Thus giving the appearance of an enchantment, this time this method is fine. We haven't arrived at the royal palace after all.

First Yumina enters. Followed by Garun-san, Alma, Olga-san, and finally I go through last and close the gate. On the other side we appeared in Yumina's room in the Royal palace in front of a full length mirror. They got it ready properly.

「This is.....」

「The royal palace in Belfast. Then Yumina, Please explain things to His Majesty the King.」

「Yes.....Touya-san. Please take care.....」

After entrusting it to Yumina, I called out to the blown-away slack-jawed Garun-san.

「Are you relieved with this, Garun-san? Then let's return」

「Ah, yes. Let's go!」

I repeated the fake enchantment and we went through.

Upon returning it was clear that preparations for departure had already been completed.

「Alright everyone! The ambassador is safe! We will protect the villagers from the dragon, go toward Eldo!」

The Garun-san who had returned safely ordered and the demi-humans roared Ou! While looking at that I walked toward Lyon-san.

「What's wrong Lyon-san? I don't think it has the Belfast side will have to get involved but.....」

「In this situation if we were to stick to 「this nothing to do with us」 then father would punch me hard with his flaming fist. We're going too. His majesty would say the same」

Lyon-san so asserted firmly and apparently everyone had decided. Then it's not a problem.

I look at the map and see that the dragon has not arrived at the village yet. It wasn't in a hurry. It was fortunate that this dragon wasn't going very fast. At best wagon speed it would take an hour to reach the village.

Unable to do anything but pray that this one hour would not prove fatal, I climbed into the carriage.

Chapter 41: Village of Eldo, and the Black Dragon

The village was in flames. People were running about trying to escape. There was a black dragon in the sky raining down fireballs. Powerful limbs, a long tail and a large pair of wings extending from the back. In its eyes danced the red light from the flames and darkness night from the scene. It seems to be enjoying the situation.

「Make rescuing the villagers top priority! Carry people out that can't move!」

Garun-san shouts. The demi-human guard soldiers, instantly started helping people that had knocked down by a fallen pillar or helped the injured that were unable to walk.

「We'll also help with the rescue! Don't let any remain in need of aid!」

Lyon-san shouts an order and the Belfast escort also participate in the villagers' rescue.

「Now then, we need to get that dragon away from the village」

Even now that dragon calmly hangs in the sky and separates from the village. In that moment Garun-san and Lyon-san go and help collect the villagers. Up until here is as planned. They also have the duty of guarding Olga-san. We can't fight the dragon here and fall.

Also that guy is flying in the sky. Our weapons won't reach it from here. Lindsey and I, who can use magic, should do something about it.

「Oh Light drill, Sacred Shining Spear, Shining Javelin!」

A bolt of light rips through the dark sky. However, the black dragon quickly evades it in the air, and then shoots a fireball at us.

「ku 「Boost」!」

I use body strengthening magic to protect against it. The explosion happens at that point and sparks pour down around me.
It's bad. If we keep fighting here the damage will just increase further.

「Kohaku!」

『As you wish』

In response to my call, Kohaku returns to his normal size.

「Lindsey! Get on!」

「Ye – s...!」

I sat straddled on Kohaku's back and drew Lindsey on as well and made her sit behind me. And then we dashed out of the village toward the south.

Looking over my shoulder behind us, the black dragon shoots a fireball toward me. I who was riding Kohaku, while running through the woods, dodged right and left splendidly. Good, follow me.

The reason I brought Lindsey is, because it was flying in the air making Lindsey and I the only ones who could fight it. We somehow have to do something about those wings between the two of us. It all starts from there.

The woods widen into a large pasture belt. The view is good and there is nothing to obscure the line of sight. If it's here then there's nothing to worry about getting damage. Although it's going to be considerably painful for our bodies.....

Gaaaaaaao!!

The dragon roars. Kohaku growls threateningly when hearing it.

『Bastard.....you've insulted my master.....?! You're just a flying lizard!』

「Eh!? Kohaku you can understand him!?!」

I asked, in surprise, while getting off of Kohaku's back, he interpreted the Dragon's words.

『「You've interrupted my pleasure with the insects. I'll split your body in 8 and eat it,」? It's just a brat who can't even speak properly.....! This is why I hate the《Aoitei》 tribe!』(TN:《蒼帝》roughly translates

into blue emperor)

Kohaku aims his anger the black dragon who was suspended in the sky.

「Pleasure...? It thinks that attacking the village is just a game? What a selfish guy」

If it was to get food to live, or in retaliation for defiling a sanctuary I would be able to understand. If so I would just teach it a lesson and drive it away, but I don't think it would end with that. .

However, that guy was just attacking people for the simple reason of pleasure it seems. If that's the case then I won't hold back either.

「Lindsey, I'm going to knock that guy down. Then cut off his wings.
「Understood, desu」

Lindsey says it a small nod. I concentrate magic, and activate a no-attribute spell.

「Multiple!」

The magic which developed around me was something like a launch pad tower aiming toward the dragon. First 1 becomes 2, 2 becomes 4, 4 becomes 8, and then double one after another and then when they had exceeded more than 1000 I used another spell.

「Oh Light Drill, sacred shining spear, Shining Javelin」

The next moment, a collective 128 light spears were launched collectively at the black dragon. I can't use a high rank spell yet, but in terms of magic I won't be beaten. I can't use a bazooka but I can if it's a machine gun.

Gyaoaaa!?

Though the black dragon tries to approach and evade the blast. It was unable to escape 128 spears. Many of them hit the body and it hit the ground while bleeding.

However, it fixes its pose immediately and unfurls its wings and starts to ascend again. But, Lindsey doesn't allow it.

「Come forth water, cool and clear katana blade, Aqua Cutter」

The black dragon disregards the blade of compressed water flying towards. Supa! The right black dragon's right wing is chopped off.

Gyaoaaa!!

Hurts don't it? The dragon let out a particularly loud roar, the dragon tries to fly away again. However, it only ascended a little bit and then fell right back down. Good, now it can't fly again.

The red eyes of the black dragon glint with pure hatred, it opens its mouth. It was a different motion from the fireballs from just a moment ago. Somehow this seems bad.

I jump, dragging Lindsey, to the side with 「Boost」by kicking the ground with my strengthened legs.

Gooooooooooooo! From the black dragon's mouth a jet of flame like from a flame thrower, the area is dyed bright red.

That guy, it can use fire breath? We can't get close to a dragon that keeps blowing flames out so easily.

Lindsey did try to use Aqua cutter once again but its power was reduced by the wall of flames made from the breath, it didn't do any damage.

And, a shadow falls down onto the dragon from overhead

「Yaa!!」

What had fallen was Yae's sword that dropped right into the dragon's right eye.

「Boost!!」

Elise puts her whole strength and flies toward and explodes into the dragon's now horizontal belly.

Gugyaoaoao!!

「That hurt! That guy's too hard!」

「It's worse than that crystal demon we fought before. I'd rather it not be a repeat of that battle」

While Yae and Elsie were complaining they made some distance from the dragon.

Anger can be seen in the one good eye and then it continuously spouts flame at the two girls.

「tou!？」

「Evade it degozaru!」

The two people withdraw in a panic from that spot. The wall of explosive flame and the flame in the vicinity begin to shine brightly.

While the dragon pays attention to the two girls, I pull out my katana and draw near to the dragon, jump up and to take the off dragon's head.

Gakiiin!

Using boost to strengthen the blow, the katana made a shrill metallic sound and broke.

「Ku!」

What hardness! I should have aimed for the remaining eye like Yae had huh? The black dragon stares at me with the red eye and raises its gooseneck and opens its mouth and made a pose to breath.

Ah, that's bad. While thinking that a knife flew out from somewhere, pierced and stuck into the dragon's left eye.

With both eyes crushed was it from the pain? The neck waved right and left breathing flame as it did so.

「Slip!」

Using that chance to remove the friction of its feet, the body loses its balance and falls down sideways. Dangerous dangerous. Slip magic is really useful. Although it's useless in the sky.

But, if that knife hadn't flown it would have been dangerous. Was it Yae? It saved me. Huh? But Yae was on this side just now...the knife flew from the opposite direction? ...Well who cares?

The dragon let out a roar of anger.. This katana is broken. As expected of a dragon. Is there a way to increase the penetration any further? Then.....

「Yae, Elise! Buy time! Lindsey build a wall of ice in my direction! Kohaku, protect Lindsey!」

Lindsey concentrates and uses a magic spell at my request.

「Come forth Ice, Ice wall of eternity, Ice Wall」

In front of me a huge thick wall of ice appears before me. It's beautiful transparent ice. This is more than enough.

「Modeling」

I held my hand to the ice and transform it. Changing the structure of a created item isn't that difficult. Magical ice is different than normal ice because it is difficult to melt, but it's not as if it can't be made. After a few seconds, there was a big lens made of ice. It had a proper foundation so it wouldn't just fall down.

「Modeling」

Small magic circles appeared one after another and projected the lens forward. 1... 2... 4... 16... 32... 64... 128... 256... 512!

「Drill oh light, Shining sacred spear, Shining Javelin!」

The 512 spears of light were sucked into the lens were concentrated into a single point, then used Modeling again to adjust the focal length to the black dragon.

「Eat this!!!」

Then next moment, a noise that can't even be properly described resounded and a hole had opened in the black dragon's chest. It falls just like that and causes the ground to tremor. The blood that gushes from the open wound dyes the ground profusely red.

「we did it」

「You did it, Touya-dono!」

Elsie and Yae run up excitedly and Lindsey came up riding on Kohaku.

「That was brilliant」

『As expected of my master. Took care of it with a big smash』

The fighting had ended, everyone let out a sigh of relief and then the ice lens suddenly shatters. Uo that startled me.

There was a black shadow that fell on the ground. We all looked up and saw a second dragon against the backdrop of the moon.

「Na...! There was one more.....!？」

Moreover, it was even larger than the black dragon that had just fallen. It had white hair growing out of its red scales on from the back of its head to the tip of its tail. It had was long and fat, the tail was long as well.

Just when we though a second raid had started, we were puzzled when the red dragon began to speak.

『I have no intention of fighting. My brother seems to have troubled you. I apologize.』

「You can talk!？」

「I am red dragon that supervises this sanctuary. I came to bring the one that was running wild back. It seems I was too late.』

Sadness floats from somewhere within the golden eyes of the red dragon that shut quietly. Is that so, he came to bring him back.... If he had been a bit faster we might have gotten support from him as well....

It was an indescribably difficult mood, Kohaku approaches the view of the red dragon.

『Red dragon. Or should I say ≪Aoitei≫. You should at least educate your own properly』

『What.....? This presence.....could it be... are you ≪Byakko≫sama!? Why are you there.....!？」』

The red dragon expressed his surprise. I didn't understand and looked at Kohaku. Is he inexpertly important, this one?

『I see... The black dragon had been knocked down by ≪Byakko≫sama huh? Then it's no wonder if the black dragon had been knocked out...』

『Do not misunderstand. It was my master who defeated him, this Touya-sama. This happened because this brat insulted my master. It was obvious repayment.』

『What...!? ≪Byakko≫sama's master!? It's a human!？」』

Once again it raises its voice in astonishment, its golden eyes met mine. After a short while the red dragon lands and quietly bows his

head.

『For this exceedingly rudeness, I beg of your pardon.... For what happened with the single black dragon. I humbly request of your warmhearted.....』

「Aa- I understand the reason so it's fine. But explain to the others so that this shall never happen again」

『Ha. Without fail. I will return to the sanctuary immediately, and proclaim it to everyone. No then please excuse me』

The red dragon stood up, once more bowed its head, flapped its wings, slowly rose into the air, passed overhead once and then flew toward the south.

『Seriously a bother. This is why «Aoitei» are』

While grumbling Kohaku returns to his smaller size with a [pon]. He's on pretty bad terms with the «Aoitei» isn't he. Well being「diamonds cutting diamonds」it really can't be helped. Huh? (TN: Idiom meaning equal in strength and toughness without equal)
When I looked around the other 3 were sitting on the ground.

「What's wrong girls?」

「What do you mean what's wrong.....I wasn't able to move.....」

Elsie said in a hoarse voice. Aa, it was the same as the time when Yumina summoned Kohaku huh? That red dragon was probably a considerably high dragon. Those golden eyes, they were probably demon eyes.

「Touya-san...were you alright?」

「Completely. It was nothing」

「It kind of feels like unfair treatment – degozaru yo.....」

Even if you say that. It's probably the god effect. That reminds me there was certainly the feeling of fear but not so much that it made me weak in the knees.

While thinking about it, I used recovery magic on everyone.

Chapter 42: Dragon's Horn and the Guardian

「Aa-, I'm beat」

I threw my body on to a grassy spot and slept with my arms and legs sprawled out. The sun that rose in the eastern sky is dazzling. Is it already morning?

After taking out the black dragon, we made an effort and rolled it up to the village. Lindsey put out the fire using water magic on the surrounding areas, Elsie and Yae searched the village and the area for the injured, and I tended to the wounded with recovery magic. (By the way I realized afterwards that I could have done everyone all at once if I had searched for 「wounded person」 in the map app and healed them all at once)

Fortunately there no casualties, however the village was nearly annihilated. It was extensively damaged....

「Touya-dono, are you here?」

「Aa, Lyon-san, thanks for your efforts」

Lyon-san walked up to where I had been sleeping. From somewhere the good smell of emergency rice was being boiled.

「But, for just for people to kill a dragon..... I've surpassed surprise straight into shock」

「It wasn't very strong and was a young dragon it seems. It was probably because of that?」

I shake away the things I heard from the red dragon and respond to Lyon-san's question. Then the wolf commander Garun-san also came.

「Oo, Touya-dono. What do you want to do about the dragon?」

「What do you mean, do with?」

「Well, what that many materials. If you were to sell them it would go

for a hefty price. But just how would you carry it.....?」

「Sell it? The dragon's corpse?」

From the dragon's scales to their claws, horns, fangs, even bones were materials used in weapons and armor. The meat was delicious as a food, and its considered a luxury item that is never sold.

So, that right belonged to those of use that defeated it but, everyone entrusted the decision to me, is what they told me. Un, lets see.....

「Well the, I present that to this village. I hope it will be of some use for reviving the village」

「The dragon!? All of it!?」

「Touya-dono, do you really understand? They are extremely valuable materials you know? In terms of money it would be foolish to say it was worth 10 King gold coins!?」

10 King gold coins... No less than 100 million yen!? That really is a waste after all, but when I started to think about it again, my thoughts started to reflect in the faces of the villagers. Ah, so it's become like this, might as well...

「.....If it can benefit this village then I could ask for nothing more. Please make use of this」

Without saying, just kidding, after all this, I answered to the two with cramped faces.

「.....I wish to express our gratitude on behalf of Misumido. Thank you, Touya-dono」

「Ha-.... It's just as father said, you're a person with a great heart. I bow my head to you」

The looked at me with a looks of thanks and respect but... it's just a display of vanity, yeah..... I hope the others will forgive me.....

With the fake transportation mirror, Olga-san, Alma and Yumina came back. First Olga-san gave her expression of gratitude. The dragon was defeated, the village had been saved, and there were no casualties because the guards escorted the people to safety.

They were exhausted and were taking catnaps around the wagon. Honestly, I want to go to sleep already. Those feelings were interrupted by an elderly demi-human with a walking stick who came

up to us.

「I am the village chief Solumu. For the efforts of defeating the dragon who was attacking the village, additionally helping greatly with the revival of the village.....thank you very much.」

I wonder what's to become of the dragon's remains. It really is a waste after all..... But the village became like this, these people will have a very difficult time hereafter... It can't be helped.

The village chief had some of the villagers bring something. It was a conical piece about 1 meter in length that was black.....this is?

「This is one of that dragon's horns. Please at least except this」

「Eh, but.....」

「Several of your weapons were damaged weren't they? With this horn, it could be the material for a new weapon, or you could sell it and buy a new weapon.」

Indeed. Thank shall we accept it? I took the horn from the village chief and was surprised at how light it is. This has a hardness far greater than iron steel they say. I finally understand how that huge dragon can fly. The only things that were harder than this were Crimson Ore, Mythril, or Orichalcum.

I took the horn for the time being and departed from the village chief-san.

I'm honestly so tired I can barely hang on.

I finally reached our wagon at last, inside Elsie, Lindsey, and Yae were asleep.

I can't possibly sleep in the wagon together with them, I lay down on the grass alongside the wagon.

「Touya-san, have a blanket」

Yumina was there with a blanket. Nice timing. While fighting my closing eyelids I thanked her and wrapped in the blanket. It's warm. I'm done. And I closed my eyes and fell asleep.

When I woke up I saw the sky backgrounded face of Yumina. I was still a bit absent-minded.

I stared into Yumina's face.

「Are you awake?」

There is a soft sensation under my head. Huh? Um this is a lap pillow... isn't it?

I rolled around on the ground and escaped from it. Wai- When did that happen?

I stood up suddenly and the villagers and guards who had already gotten up were looking at me while grinning. Uwaa.....! That's embarrassing. To rest my head on a girl's lap in public. It would be a lie if I said I didn't like it, however it's still extremely embarrassing!

「Ara, you've awakened」

「... you certainly slept well」

「It looked like it felt comfortable」

freeze There was a chill behind my back, I turn around slowly. The three girls had radiant smiles and were standing there quietly. Even though their faces were very kind and they were smiling, their eyes weren't laughing. Ah, ara.....? Don't they look kind of angry...?

「Um~...Did something happen.....?」

「「「Not really?」」」

No, that's a lie isn't it? So why are you making those sulky faces?

「Yeah yeah, let's leave it at that. Rock paper scissors is a sacred game. No grudges right?」

「I know...」

「...muu...」

「It's extremely disappointing」

Yumina claps her hands together and the three people look away, they've become obedient.....did you girls have some kind of match?

「Touya-dono, please prepare for departure soon. It is necessary to report about the village to the capital」

Olga-san and Garun-san had come and told us we needed to depart. Because of the strange mode, it was fortunate that I had to go to the wagon. The glances from behind worried me but I pretended not to notice.

《Kohaku, did something happen while I was asleep?》

Kohaku had been at the wagon apparently and I asked him with telepathy what had happened. Maybe he knows something.

《Haa, well... what can I say... um... it was a woman's battle...》

《 ? 》

I don't really get it but everyone except Yumina was in a bad mood. I need to do something don't I.....

I thought of something and headed over to the village chief's house, and negotiated for and received 「that」

I was relieved when the three girl's moods had finally gotten better in the shaking wagon. On Elsie's, Lindsey's, Yae's and Yumina's arms silver bracelets shined.

I got from the village chief-san's house (I paid for them properly) several items made with 「modeling」from silverware. And I gave it to all of them as a present as thanks.

Although they were surprised at first, they received them with pleasure. The bracelets slid around on the arm when you looked at them. Apparently they were pleased with them. However the occasional grinning is a bit disgusting.

「Olga-san, how much longer until the capital?」

「After about a little more than 2 days til the capital of Beluju. There are villages along the way, it might be good for Touya-san to procure some weapons.」

Yeah, I see. According to Garun-san, if I wanted a weapon made from the dragon's horn, the Capital is the best it seems. But it means I would be swordless until then. I can go only-magic in a fight but it seems discouraging.

N, wait a sec, with 「Modeling」can't I just make my own? Well, it would be a big loss if I failed....

「For the time being its only two days, even without a weapon I can manage with magic」

To buy a band aid weapon for a mere two days sounds silly. There would be much better weapons in the capital. So I answered that way and Olga-san remembering something, pulled something,

wrapped in cloth, out of her own bag.

「Ah, that reminds me, the village chief gave this to me」

What Olga-san had handed over was a single knife. The blade was about 20 cm, singled edged black knife that had been warped.

「This is?」

「? It was stuck in the dragon's eye.... Is it not Touya-san's?」

Eh? Then Elise...no? There's no way it would be Lindsey's. Eh, then just whose knife is this? I mean, was there someone there? Someone had been at the scene that helped me out? Well they did tentatively help me so they don't appear to be an enemy...

《Kohaku. At that time was there someone other than us there?》

《Yes. I certainly felt a presence in the trees above. Two people perhaps.... They didn't express any anger towards us so I thought they were from the village.》

I confirmed it through telepathy with Kohaku. It seems that someone was definitely observing our fight with the dragon. Just why did they do that?

That reminds me, in the town of Langley there was a sign that someone had been looking at Yumina.

Even if I think about it I don't know. I examined the knife but there wasn't anything particular that I could find about it.

I put it away for the time being. It was inconvenient without a sheath. Even still just who on earth.....?

Chapter 43: The Capital of Misumido and the Beast King Match

「Haa—.....so it's like this—.....」

We arrived in the capital Bellju, the instant I saw the white palace, I unconsciously said that.

It looks like that, the Taj Mahal from India. It was a great mausoleum built by the emperor completely out of marble. 「Crown Palace」is what the white building meant.

Well, it had that similar feeling but, there several parts that were considerably different.

Compared to the adobe streets and ramparts, the white palace really stuck-out. It was something like mixing the palace in India with the world of Arabian Nights (Aladdin for Disney fans)

When compared do a street in Belfast, the streets weren't quite as developed for wagons. Even still, it still wouldn't be beat with the vigor of the people..

Various races were coming and going, moving around vibrantly. There were many cultures mixed which showed an improvement. It could be thought of as the face of the capital.

We queued up in front of a high building and crossed a bridge to the palace. We rode along the waterway and were made to drive around to enter the palace grounds above.

We got off the wagon, Olga-san, us 5, and then Garun-san and Rion-san, 8 in all, walked in the palace garden and leered at it from the pavement. Small birds played in the beautiful garden, there were trees planted at equal intervals, and there were squirrels looking down, from above, at us.

We ascended a lone flight of stairs and entered the palace. Bright sunlight poured down from the ceiling, that coupled with the white marble shined dazzlingly.

We walked through the center of the courtyard, and along the

corridor stood columns that ran the length far into the interior, up until a large decorated door.

Gigigigigi, the door groaned as it was pried ajar by the guards who opened it.

The red carpet extended, was met by streams of light at different times of the day, to the left and right. There were various people queuing up. Everyone wore splendid clothing, the elderly statesmen of the country were horned and winged races it seems.

Thus further in still, sitting on the throne, on a raised dais, was the king of this country.

Beast King Jamka Bulau Misumido. A snow leopard demi-human it seems. He looked to be in his early 50's. He had white hair and a white beard, he had a powerful and overpowering feeling as the king. There was an indescribable power coming from the sharp pair of eyes that felt like a trick of the light somewhere.

Then every one of us knelt and bowed our heads.

「Your Majesty the King...Olga Strand has returned from the Kingdom of Belfast」

「Umu, it was arduous wasn't it?」

The Beast King nods quietly. Continuing on to Garun-san and Lyon-san who were behind Olga-san.

「I am pleased with Garun, as well as Belfast's knight's guard for safety accomplishing their duty」

「「Ha-ha!」」

Then the Beast King slowly gazed toward us, while narrowing his eyes he showed a small smile.

「You are the ones that the King of Belfast had dispatched? Along the way, a dragon that had been attacking Held's village was defeated. Is this true?」

「Yes. It is exactly as you say. I, along with 4 others, exterminated a black dragon who was attacking the village.」

Having answered the Beast King's question with a firm attitude, Yumina stood quietly.

「.....And you are?」

There was no straining at this meeting, at the girl that gazes at him, upon the Beast King's face arose suspicion.

「I apologize for the late introduction. I am the King of Belfast's Kingdom, Toristowin Elnes Belfast's daughter, Yumina Elnes Belfast」

That caused a stir. Well of course, a princess of a country just happened to appear. Olga-san and Rion-san knew the circumstances, Garun-san on the other hand was surprised.

「My word... Why is the princess of Belfast here in our country?」

「To my country, an alliance with Misumido carries that great of an importance. Here is a letter from my father. Please confirm it.」

While saying that and pulled a letter out of her chest pocket. Just when did she get that? Aa, when we took temporary shelter in the forest in Belfast?

An aide comes and reverently receives the letter and hands it to the King on the throne. The king opened the seal and looked over the letter, then the King of Misumido looked at Yumina and smiled.

「Indeed..... Alright I understand. I will think upon the contents positively, I will give a reply soon. Please stay here, along with your companions, in the palace.」

While handing the letter to the aide, the Beast King spoke quietly towards us.

「And, that's all that needs to be for the formal stuff. There is one thing that interests me that I would like to ask one question however.....」

The Beast King looks at Kohaku who is at my side. Well, you would be interested, normally.

「Is that byakko simply following you?」

「Yes. It is the servant of Touya-dono here」

『Gao』

Kohaku gives a short bark as affirmation. The Byakko were sacred to those in Misumido. Regardless of what they thought about the servant part, there was no collar nor chain so no one said anything

about it.

The Beast King quietly watched Kohaku and the after a short time looked directly at me.

「.....I see. Accompanied by a byakko and defeating a dragon? Fufufu, it's been a long time since my blood has boiled. Well, Touya was it? How about a match with me?」

「Ha?」

I let out a stupid voice because the question was so sudden. All the elderly statesmen sighed in resignation in unison. What's up with that?

Behind the Royal Palace there was a wide arena. It was just like a Roman Coliseum. This country really is multicultural.

I was brought here, to have a match against the Beast King. What in the heck is going on?

「Please excuse us, Touya-dono. His Majesty, The Beast King, when seeing someone that is strong cannot stand idly by. Honestly it troubles us as well.」

So said Graz-san in apology who was the Prime Minister of the country. It was a winged person who had gray wings. He was in his late forties? His robe was the same gray color as his wings and had a mustache.

「I think that he needs to have a bitter painful experience here. Please give it your all」

「Wait wait wait. It's your King isn't it? Is that ok like this?」

I looked at Graz-san with amazement. Then Graz-san, while looking at the people nearby started make complaints.

「It's fine, please go all out. What does the King thing of the current state of affairs? He regularly participates in training sessions with the warrior squadron and knocks them all out!」

「Just the other day 'I thought up a new weapon!' he said and went right over to the blacksmith! Then everything that had been planned had to be postponed, do you know what I've been through?!」

「I want to hold a gladiator tournament' he says. Just where do you

think we'll get the budget for that!? Nee!？」

.....It seems that the Misumido's elder statesmen are having a hard time too. He's a strange king isn't he? Well, I think that Belfast's king is pretty strange too.

For the time being, I take my wooden sword and head toward the center of the arena. My companions and Misumido's elder statesmen were in the auditorium as well as Misumido's commander class warrior squadron.

His Majesty, the Beast King, held a wooden sword in one hand and a wooden shield in the other. It hindered my movements so I for that reason I declined the shield.

「The match will continue until either the blows become fatal or until one acknowledges defeat. Magic is acceptable however magic directly aimed at the body is prohibited. Is this acceptable?」

There is a dark skinned person in the corner serving as umpire for the Beast King and I, and explains to us both at the same time. No direct attack magic, huh? What should I do? The bitter elder statesman group said, don't go easy.

「Umm... Are we really going to do this?」

「Fufufu, No need to go easy. Think of this as actual combat and do whatever tricks you've got, try your best to defeat me!」

The Beast King laughs happily. This is bad, he's serious. He has muscles that would make you think he wasn't in his 50's, he's likely training himself.

It can't be helped. He said so himself. Let's go with the intent of actual combat?

After that the umpire raises his right hand high, looks towards me, then towards the Beast King and then drops it mightily.

「Well then, begin」

「Slip」

「Nuo!？」

Sute-n! the Beast King-heika skipped grandly. In that instant I used the opening closed the distance and pointed the wooden sword at His Majesty's neck.

「Yes, it's decided right?」

「Wa- wa- wait a moment! That doesn't count does it!? What was that just now!?」

「That was my non-attribute magic「Slip」. All magic besides attack magic was allowed.」

「No no no! That's no good! There's the question of the spirit of the match even before that!」

The Beast King-heika was spouting about the conclusion that he couldn't accept. Well, it's not like I don't understand your feelings. But in fact, if this were a true battle it would be most effective. Not for those flying in the sky though.

「Just once more! This time no magic!」

「E-...What should we do? Prime Ministers-?」

I called out to Prime Minister Graz-san. For a moment he didn't understand and then “Ah” a smile spread across his face in understanding.

「Yes I see. Well anymore and it will be troubling because it will start to interfere with affairs of state.」

「Gu- Graz! Don't say that, just a little longer. Just a little!?」

「Even if you say that」

The Beast King-heika ran upto the Prime Minister and started to argue. Saying things like 「I'll do it properly!」and「I won't skip out anymore」. Even still the elder statesmen group gave their conditions one by one and before long His Majesty's shoulders were slumped. The king had accepted the various conditions placed by the Prime ministers group, did I do something bad.....?

「Touya-dono-. Please excuse us but His Majesty would like one more match!」

With the backdrop of the happy-looking Graz-san's voice who was very pleased, the Beast King-heika stood before me once again. Ah, is he a little angry?

「That magic is off limits this time, ok!?」

「Understood」

Starting once more. The umpire dropped his right hand.

「Begin!」

Chapter 44: Acceleration magic and the Party

The instant the match began the Beast King plowed toward me. To keep from being caught I had to wrench my body and throw it out of the way. I momentarily leapt back and then it was my turn.

「Drill of light, Shining sacred spear, Shining.....」
「Too Slow」

The Beast King thrust forward with his shield like a bullet and broke my pose. Ku, the chant was stopped? I struck the bokken without restraint and increased the distance once again.

However, that move was read and he pursued with a piercing blow. Just when I thought that I had avoided the blow to the chest another came toward my neck.

A two-step attack!? I twisted my neck out of the way, the tip of the sword nicks my ear. Dangerous! It's not good for the side that loses the initiative. I have to attack!

「Multiple!」

Small magic circles developed on the ground, under my feet, one after the other.

「Mu!?!」

Because of the sudden appearance of the magic circles, the Beast King's pursuit came to a halt. Well, of course he would. But this was just a bluff to slow someone down, a cheat.

「Boost!」

Utilizing body strengthening magic, I approached the Beast King with an explosive leap from the legs! Alright, I've got him! I was convinced of my victory.

「Accel」

The moment after the Beast King mutters that word, he disappears from view, and my sword cuts the empty space where he stood.

「Na.....!？」

I feel a presence in the previously vacant space behind me, and squat reflexively and then the Beast King's bokken swipes where my head had just been. I roll away from that spot just as I was, then stand up straight. What was that just now!?

「You avoided that!? You're good, Touya-toyara」

「That just now.....Was that possibly a no-attribute magic?」

「That's right. My own no-attribute magic「Accel」」

I thought so. Acceleration magic huh? I suddenly lost sight of him. It happened so quickly that for a moment I didn't understand what had happened.

「What kind of magic is it?」

「Oh, it just increases the quickness of the body, that's all it does. When you move your body you move through a magic barrier, but it uses a stupid quantity of magic so it can't be used frequently. That speed is something that a normal human can't react to, you did well in avoiding it.」

It seems to be purely acceleration magic. I wonder if it creates a magic barrier to protect the body from the effects of the sudden speed increase.

「I see, I understand. That's some nice magic you got there」

「Isn't it?」

「So, I'll thankfully make use of it——Accel」

The acceleration magic activated. The next moment I had moved to the Beast King's side and swung the sword at his side, but I was surprised to find that I'd missed my intended target.

Huh? Did I miss the timing? I had intended to strike the body but ended up hitting the Beast King's side instead. This is pretty difficult to handle if you aren't used to it. Although I had relayed my intention to move, the actual movement shifted a little.

「Na.....! You, just now...!」

「It's surprisingly difficult. But I'll hit next time.」

I approached the Beast King at super-high-velocity. The other party also used「Accel」and we violently exchanged blows while accelerating, evading, jumping back and striking each other again. Blows were exchanged as fast as lightning, the swords struck each other repeatedly. I was gradually becoming used the speed. Do thought processes increase as well? (TIn: Everybody was kung fu fighting...)

For fighters to moving at the same acceleration, it was the same as a normal fight, to normal people however it would be difficult to watch.

Furthermore, I have a method that will double the speed even further. From「accel」to...

「Boost!!」

Don! And the acceleration increase one step further. With acceleration magic, the legs are strengthened. The speed is so quick that it probably can't be seen by normal eyes. However with the instantaneous 「Accel」the speed far exceeds that of normal 「Accel」

「Na!?!」

The next moment I move behind the Beast King and pressed the wooden sword closely against his neck.

「Checkmate」

「.....I don't know the meaning of that word but, it appears to be my loss」

With both arms raised and the Beast King-heika admitted his defeat. Upon the umpire seeing that the umpire raises his right hand.

「Victor, Mochizuki Touya-dono!」

At the umpires bark, an applause erupted from the arena in unison. Honestly, I thought there would be booing at the defeat of this country's king but it seems that was just an imaginary fear.

「For you to be able to use「Accel」 as well. Somehow I had absolute faith in my own magic ability and became conceited. It's important to remember that」

「No, well, hahaha」

I deceived him with a laugh. No-attribute magic is individual magic. So it's almost inconceivable that the Beast King would have come up against someone with the same ability. It couldn't be helped that the Beast King relaxed his guard. Even this time could be considered a foul.

But I wasn't able to make use of the six attribute magic. He kept interrupting the spell so I wasn't able to use any of them. Usually the wizard is in the rear guard, so there wasn't the need to activate spells seconds apart.

Like with non-attribute magic with the chantless spells....

That evening the Royal Palace held a party. There were people like Misumido's Statesmen, powerful nobles, important merchants etc who had come to congratulate Olga-san on her return and as welcome for the Princess of Belfast.

It was not a true feast, there was no need to dress up formally, but because it was a special occasion they dressed up anyways.

It was a black vest with plenty of white underneath. I had a long white robe and a navy blue belt rolled around my body again and again. I even wore a turban, imagine the appearance something like fairy tale's Aladdin.

The hall was a stand-up type of party and I enjoyed talking with everyone, it is a good meal.

「Hey, Touya-dono. They suit you, those clothes」

With Champagne in hand, the now armor-less Lyon-san approaches. Because of how the Baron usually is at home, I guess I've become used to this.

「I mean, wouldn't it be better if I'd worn something like Lyon-san?」

Whether or not the clothes suited me was a different matter. Well, if I had worn the same suit as Lyon-san then it would make me feel small, this is good in and of itself. To be compared to a good-looking

person it would damage my glass heart.

「And, umm, where is Olga-dono?」

「I haven't seen her...」

Lyon-san pretends to act casual. By the way, she being the guest of honor, has yet to make an appearance. Haven't you arrived yet? I give the restlessly fidgeting knight, who was looking about the hall, a wry smile.

「Touya-san!」

Along with the voice, a small fox suddenly appeared clinging to my waist with her ears twitching.

「Is that Alma?」

I petted the head of the little fox girl dressed in a lovely dress. Directly behind Alma stood a well built, radiant gentleman with a white moustache. The ears lay flat against his head and had some gray mixed in as well as having a long, fat tail. Ah, could it be...

「Pleased to meet you, I am Alma's father Alba」

I thought so. Alma's father stretched out his hand and grasped mine while looking at his child. The things that show age are the ears and age huh?

「Thanks, I'm Mochizuki Touya. Touya is my first name and Mochidzuki is my family name」

「You were born in Ishen?」

It's been a while since I've heard that phrase.

「I- I'm Lyon Brits of the First Belfast Knight's squad!」

He bit his tongue, bit his tongue. While being a bit high-strung, he exchanged a handshake with Alba-san. Well, seeing that it's Alma's father it would mean that it's Olga-san's father as well, it's not hard to understand.

「For guarding my daughters, thank you very much」

「N- no, it was my duty yafter all!」

He bit it his tongue again. Regardless the circumstances he's a bit too high-strung isn't he? I might as well send him a life raft, but would I speak to Alba-san about?

「What does Alba-san do?」

「I work in trade commerce. I stock various good items from Belfast.」

A trade merchant? It seems he's receiving good treatment.

「Recently I managed to obtain something called 「Shogi」and I think it will sell well here. It is even said that His Majesty the King of Belfast is very pleased with it.」

「Eh? Shogi?」

When did it become like this? Apparently Olga-san had written about it in a letter and caused great interest.

「If it's Shogi then I have one more set I can part with」

「Oh, really!? That would be most welcome. I wanted to see the real thing at least once」

If I recall correctly, I left the set we used on the way here in the wagon.

「Well then, I will deliver it tomorrow. I have some business to attend to, Lyon-san, can you deliver it to Alba-san's house? Olga-san knows the rules so you can learn them from her」

「Eh!?Me!?!」

Lyon-san started to shake suddenly and became quite confused.

「Lyon-san's father is the well trusted general of His Majesty the King. He would be a fine Shogi partner.」

「Hou, that General Lyon!? Well well, please by all means come to our home and speak with us」

Alba-san shows a radiant smile as he talks to Lyon-san. As a possible marriage candidate for his daughter there shouldn't be any problems with family lineage. It would be good if Alba-san saw him in a favorable light. Well, as for marriage it depends on the two's feelings, it might just be viewed as unwanted meddling.

「Ha! Well then that day, I look forward to it!」

Lyon-san stands straight up. He's as stiff as always, this person.
It's alright isn't it, while seriously worrying about the knight who was standing beside me, there was a sudden uproar in the hall.
N? Did something happen?

Chapter 45: Polaroid, and the Fairy Master

Upon reaching the noise at the hall entrance, there were the Beast King-heika and Olga-san as well as Yumina and the other girls.

Olga-san is wrapped in a gorgeous party dress from the Kingdom of Belfast, Yumina and the others are wearing a native Indian Sari like dresses. Elsie's is red, Lindsey's is blue, Yae's is Purple and Yumina's is pink, and although each is a different color, they all match nicely. Kohaku is following along beside them.

「Oo, Touya-dono. Don't they look just splendidly? It wouldn't be strange to say they were Misumido nobles, you know?」

「Yes, I see.....」

The Beast King-heika grinds broadly while looking at me. I wonder what it is, not being used to this makes me embarrassed.

And toward Olga-san, clad in a dress, Lyon-san's eyes were stolen. Arara? Olga-san's hair has several hair ornaments that were shining. Hohou, might this be a sign of hope?

「It suits you, Touya-san. It's fantastic」

「Un, perfect isn't it?」

「...it has it's own charm」

「It is cool, Touya-dono」

Everyone looks at me and praises me. You're making me blush.

「Everyone looks wonderful as well. Ah, can I take a picture?」

I took out the smartphone and opened the camera app. I took a stance and pushed the shutter button and it flashed.

Although it was nothing special for us, everyone was surprised by the flash, the Misumido soldiers, who had been leaning against the wall, placed their hands on their swords. Crap, the flash was bad wasn't it?

「What was that just now?」

The Beast King-heika looked at the smartphone in my hand. I should probably give an excuse.

「Excuse me, this is my no-attribute magic. It records and preserves images of the scene.」

「? I don't really understand.....」

I showed the Beast King-heika the image I just filmed. There the 4 girls were shown.

「Hou! Instant drawing magic? I've heard there is a magician that lives in the Lifuresu Empire. Can you take it out?」

Hee, the Empire has someone that can use the same kind of magic? Apparently I won't have to bother explaining a photograph.

「I can. If there is some paper to transcribe it to」

The Beast King-heika had some paper brought forward, and while looking at the image I activated「Drawing」and transcribed it. Then, the 4 girls appeared on the paper instantly. It looked like an old black-and-white photo.

「Oo! That's amazing! Touya-dono, can you draw me as well?」

「Yes I can」

If the person themselves is here, it's possible to use「Drawing」without the camera.

The photo of the Beast King-heika striking a pose? He was utterly thrilled. But, it started a commotion. Shortly thereafter, Alba-san wanted his family's photo and then I was assailed by "me too" one after the other and ended up stuck making photos.

Because each piece took about 10 seconds that wasn't the problem, but there were many subjects that had trouble deciding this or that pose and it ended up taking a long time. I became a living Polaroid camera. Honestly it was exhausting.

Throwing himself into the confusion, Lyon-san asked if he could get a 2-shot with Olga-san. Of course I transcribed it. But it was more like a Print Club booth rather than a Polaroid.

After completing all the requests, I went out of the hall to rest. I sank

down onto a sofa that had been setup. Compared to the hall it's calm and quiet.

While staring off into space up the corridor, something strange crossed the corridor further on ahead.

「Eh?」

A strange voice unintentionally slips out.

From far down the hall came the unsteady footsteps of that walking thing. In short it's a bear. Well, there are demi-human bear's because this is the sub-human country. I even saw some in the hall just now. However this was a stuffed bear that was walking there.

It's about 50cm tall? It looked like a stuffed teddy bear in every regard.... But why is a stuffed animal walking unsteadily down the hall?..... I wonder if I'm just tired.

And, the walking bear stops directly in front of me and looks my way, Crap, our eyes met.

Ji_____

Ji_____

Ji_____

Ji_____

Something like this happened before, this situation. N?

It waved its hands and beckoned me..... Follow me is it saying? What should I do.....?

I decided to follow it after all. If it looks dangerous I'll use 「Accel」 and run away with everything I've got.

I follow the unsteady teddy until we come to a room down the hall. The bear can't reach the knob. While jumping the teddy dexterously turns the knob and opens the door. Again it beckons me while going inside. Go inside huh?

The moonlight streamed through a window into the poorly lit room. It was a wide room with furniture in an orderly arrangement.

「.....Ara? What a strange guest you've brought with you, Pola」

I heard an unexpected voice and looked around in surprise. Then, in front of the window, there was a girl sitting on a red sofa, alone.

She looks about Yumina and Alma's age? She has twin tails and golden eyes with white hair. She was wearing black shoes and a

frilly black dress and she had nothing but black Goth Loli clothes from head to toe. Normally I would be paying attention to that, however I was drawn to the things on her back.

They glittered in the moonlight, a thin, translucent feather. Not a bird's wing nor a butterfly's, they extended from the back. Could she be from the fairy family?

[image="

<http://8428.mitemin.net/userpageimage/viewimagebig/icode/i75025/>"

「And? Who are you?」

「Ah, I am Touya. Mochidzuki Touya. My given name is Touya」

「Are you from Ishien?」

Enough with that question already. Though I say that, because it looks like that I couldn't say anything back.

「I see, you came to today's party, that is to say, the dragon killing?」

「Dragon killing you say..... Well yeah. You are?」

「Ara, I'm sorry. Excuse the late introduction. I am the Chief of the fairy family, Rin. This is Pola」

The Chief of the fairy family!? This girl is!? She looks at me, too surprised to even speak, and laughs softly.

「Even though I look like this I've lived a long time you know? The Fairy family is long lived after all.」

「You're older!? I mean about how old?.....」

For a moment, I worried about whether it was impolite to ask a woman her age but Rin didn't seem to worry about it and gave it some thought.

「I wonder how old...? I'm pretty sure it's over 600.」

「600!?」

「It's a pain so I'll go with 612」

Well, "I'll go with" you say.... The girl in front of me is 600 years over or..... no never mind, it's a different world. If it's that age then it's understandable that she would be the Chief of the Fairy family.

「Do fairies grow slowly?」

「.....No. When fairies reach a certain age they stop growing. Just

like a normal human they stop growing somewhere between the late teens and early twenty's but, in my case, I stopped growing early」

She puckered her lips in dissatisfaction and muttered. Apparently she is displeased with her body. She doesn't really look much different than Yumina.

To comfort Rin, Pola pats her head.

「By the way, about Pola..... Is it perhaps a summoned beast?」

「No. It is a 100% authentic teddy bear. It's just that with my no-attribute magic 「Program」that it is able to move」

「Program?」

Program, as in a computer? Could it be that this bear, is a robot?

「The no-attribute magic「Program」is a magic that can embed a set of instructions to inorganic objects. For example.....」

Tatata, and she drew a chair that had been left in the room up in front of me. Rin holds out her hand, magic was being concentrated and a magic circle appeared underneath the chair.

「Program begin

/ Movement : move forward 2 meters

/ Activation : When someone sits down

/ Program End」

The magic circle disappeared under the chair. Then Rin sat in the chair and then the teddy slowly walked forward and stopped after about 2 meters.

「I forgot to set the speed. Well, by doing this you can have built-in magic」

I see. Certainly, you can't say it's not a「Program」. You can't input data however, you can automate an object? Couldn't this be extremely useful!?

「If you were to order Pola to「Fly」would you be able to embed the instruction?」

「That wouldn't be possible. It doesn't have that kind of power. 「Program」 is only able to embed simple commands. But, if it was

the model of a bird, it could be made to fly」

I see, I see. So there is a restriction. Even still it's useful, this magic.

「I'll try it out a bit」

「Eh?」

Magic is concentrated on the chair. A magic formation appears on the floor 「Program」 preparation is complete.

「Program Begin

/ Movement: 5 meters, at the speed when someone walks, backwards

/ Activation: When someone sits down

/ Program End」

After the magic circle disappeared, I sit to experiment. Then, it retreats about 5 meters a little quickly. Yes, I can use this.

「You..... what did you just do?」

Rin's eyes crackle and looked at me.

「What do you mean what...「Program」?」

「What is that in the form of a question...? I mean you can use「Program」as well?」

「Um, Ah- looks like it」

Rin casts a dubious glance at me.

Ji——

Ji——

Ji——

Ji——

.....It was the same thing that happened with Pola. Is it the like pet like owner thing?... or is it something else?

After a moment, she exhales and crosses her arms.

I have many questions for you, but I'll stop for now..... There's a human that Pola is interested in, brought here and made a program, it sure is interesting the thing that came. Not since Charlotte has something like this been found]

「Charlotte?」

I react to the familiar name. Could it really be that Charlotte-san?

「My sole apprentice. If I remember correctly she serves the Kingdom of Belfast as court magician」

It's that Charlotte-san after all. Wait...that would mean.....

「Ah! The demon master with the training from hell who forced magic to be used until she collapsed, forcibly recovered her magic, and then forced her to use magic until she collapsed again!？」

「A#!?」 (TLN:# is sign sometimes seen in manga/anime to indicate anger or irritation)

Scary scary. Stop staring at me so much. I didn't say that. I'm sorry. I'm really sorry.

「.....Well, it's fine. I'll beat Charlotte someday. Touya, you're magic talent is wonderful. What attributes can you use besides no-attribute?」

「All of them」

「.....I won't be surprised any longer」

For a while Rin thought while sighing and slowly turned her golden eyes towards me, then opened her palms and slapped them together.

「——I've decided. You, become my disciple」

「Ha?」

Chapter 46: Gun Production, and a new Kind of Weapon

Yesterday I courteously refused the Chief of the Fairy clan, Rin's, command to 「Become my disciple」. Who would want to study under a demonic master like you? I don't have any strange inclinations. To begin with she was knocked out for a while.

The party ended successfully and we returned to our assigned rooms and slept in soft beds. Although it was impossible to go to sleep for quite a while, we fell asleep without even knowing it, and the morning came.

Now then, I have something that I want to try for a bit. I browsed some sites with my smartphone, the purpose was to draw something in particular with「Drawing」and transcribed it. Yep, it's more or less come together.

After eating a light breakfast, that had been delivered to the room, I left with a bunch of transcribed papers, along with Kohaku and headed toward Prime Minister Graz-san's place.

When expressing the need to go out, I was loaned a castle gate traffic permit medal. At the time I had been requested for a transcription using 「Drawing」. Apparently Graz-san wanted one too. And then I went over to Lyon-san's place and handed over the Shougi set. By the way town of Leaflet was being revitalized by Shougi, I should ask him to advertise that fact to Alba-san.

「Ara, are you going out?」

We had finished our business in the castle, then as we head toward the castle gates to depart, we suddenly meet Yumina and Lindsey, who had both finished breakfast. It seems they were out for a morning walk in the courtyard.

「We're going shopping around the castle. Want to go?」

「Of course」

「...Me too」

Although I thought about inviting Elsie and Yae too but, according to Lindsey, they were both training alongside Misumido's warrior captains in the arena.....It couldn't be that the Beast King-heika was participating as well right?

Three people plus alpha pass through the gate and come into the area around the castle.

Let's see, e-to, huh?

「...Where do they sell metal?」

「Metal is it?」

「Un, things like brass or copper or iron, things like that. It would be great if they sold ingots though」

「I'm not sure what an ingot is, but if you got a blacksmith they'll probably sell you some」

I see. I search for a blacksmith on the smartphone. Just how many are there? Let's just head toward the closest one.

Advancing toward the east as shown on the map, the blacksmith is at the intersection. *Kan kan*, the strike of the hammer can be heard from inside the shop.

「Yo, welcome. Sharpening or reforging?」

I spoke with the shop employee who was standing in front. We had a pleasant exchange and I got Iron and Brass and two paperback books worth of paper. Just then I went into a furniture shop and bought a rubber board used for shoe soles.

「Now then, all that remains is gunpowder.....?」

I tentatively searched for「gunpowder」and a hit easily popped up. Magic tool service shop..... Well it's not like it isn't a magic tool. Well anyway, I bought 3 bottles of gunpowder. With this I've completed collecting the materials?

「...What are you going to make.....?」

Lindsey looks at the purchased items and asks with a puzzled look.

「A weapon, I'm going to try and create one」

「A weapon?」

As the two girls cock their heads in puzzlement they're taken to a back alley and I use 「Gate」to return to the room in the castle. I grabbed a 1 meter long fragment of a dragon's horn and again used 「Gate」to move to a forest near Misumido's capital.

If it's here then the public won't notice it.

I put the bunch of papers on a stump and set an ingot on them so they wouldn't just fly away.

「Alright, now the dragon's horn goes.....ah」

Crap. I can't use it like this. It has to be cut into a smaller size. I wonder if there is anything to cut..... I mean there aren't any normal tools that can cut this are there?

「Lindsey, sorry but can you cut this in to this size piece with magic?」

「Sure」

I specified from the edge to a specific point for the size I wanted.

「Come forth water, cool clear katana blade, Aqua cutter」

A sound suddenly resounds with a flash and the dragon's horn is cut. Yea, Lindsey being here is a big help. The part that was cut off is considerably lighter than it looks. Although its light there is no doubt of its strength as it is far stronger than Iron.

Otto, no time to be impressed. Shall we start?

While playing a staring game with the bunch of papers, each part was being recorded one by one. It may look a little strange but all the parts are slowly coming together.

Alright, let's do it.

「Modeling」

Slowly the horn is starting to take shape. The barrel, cylinder, hammer trigger... were being made, at the same time the grip was being formed from the board, then assemble it all at once.

After 10 minutes, in my hands was the black luster of one rotary gun, it was a revolver.

I tentatively used the Remington new army model as a reference but there weren't many reviews for it. Well, the mood wasn't going to change it think.

Because I wanted to make it semi-automatic, I altered it to make it double action. I also altered the cylinder and the end result was a completely different thing. The design was cool looking so I just used it as reference.

Grasping the gun, I confirmed the sensation. Un, not bad. It feels a little light. But the lightness isn't bad I think.

「Now then, next should be the bullets」

I used the ingot and gunpowder and made 50 shells. For the moment this should be enough.

Loading 6 shells into the cylinder... but before that.

「Enchant: Aport」

I imbued the gun with Aport magic. Furthermore...

「Program Start

/Activation : Owner says「Reload」

/Action contents : When firing shells at high speed... 「Aport」within one meter radius the empty cartridges out of the cylinder and reload with new shells.

/ End Program」

O-k, this is good. Loading every time is a pain. One could say it would be better to just make an automatic, but it's just my preference, the revolver is way too cool.

I once again load the shells, point the revolver toward the tree directly in front of me, and pull the trigger.

Bang! the sound explodes and the bullet is launched. Oou, it had a greater impact than I imagined. The bullet... looks like it missed.

I follow up with a second and a third bullet, I'm beginning to think the accuracy isn't very high. Not even flying straight... a.

I see, I didn't make the rifling. Inside the barrel is a spiral groove. With this it gives the bullet precise gyroscopic precession, in effect making the bullet fly straight.

I used modeling and made the rifling. After that, tried and shot the bullet again, this time it flew out straight.

After shooting all the bullets, I confirmed the reloading.

「Reload」

At my word the 6 empty cartridges fell to the ground. And then 6 shells disappeared and were loaded into the cylinder again. I pulled the trigger and a bullet launched. Un, no problem.

「Did you complete it?」

「Un, well yeah. This is called a 「gun」. It's for long distance fighting. It can be used in one hand and is stronger than a bow and arrow.

「...That's amazing. It's like a miniature cannon.....」

Lindsey mutters while looking at the gun grasped in my hand. Well it does look roughly like a cannon from this world. Honestly a magician that uses 「Explosion」is sufficient in a group so it's wasn't used very much.

「The gun is finished, but I still have something I want to try」

While saying so, I removed all the bullets from the cylinder and left one in my hand.

「Enchant: Explosion」

I enchanted the bullet with explosion magic.

「Program start

/ Activation: Upon impact of the launched warhead

/ Action content: 「Explosion」activates in the center of the bullet

/ Program end」

I loaded the magic bullet in to the cylinder, and aimed it at the tree that had been using for practice.

Dagoon! the explosion roars and the tree that had been shot blew apart. Explosion worked.

「Na.....!」

「Hawawa...」

Lindsey and Yumina went weak in the knees and fell down. Alright, with this I can use chantless attack magic. Using 「enchant」 and「program」on every bullet is a pain though. Well, it's possible to do them all at once so I don't really need to worry about it huh?

Using rubber-coated metal bullets with 「Paralyze」takes the other party out without killing them. There is no more convenient weapon

than this. (Well if the other party has a 「paralysis」charm then it won't work though.)

To ignore the attribute requirements and be able to use any magic is its strong point. Even Yumina who doesn't have the fire attribute could use 「Explosion」

「Touya-san could you make me one of those guns too?」

「...I want one too, desu」

「Eh?」

When Yumina and Lindsey asked for them, I gave it some thought. For the two who had seen the demonstration it was understandable that the two rear guards want those kind of weapons, but I worried about it being too dangerous. Maybe it's just overprotection.

Well for starters, Yumina uses dangerous things like bows and Lindsey can slice and dice a dragon's wing, it really is after the fact. Well I'll just start off giving them rubber-coated 「Paralyze」 bullets for now.

「Alright, for the time being pick out the design you'd like」

The images results for various guns came up and I used 「Drawing」 to make them come out. The two feasted their eyes on the view, and before long, Yumina chose a Colt M1860 Army and Lindsey chose the gun named S&W M36, it was a short barrel style S&W.

Lindsey aside, Yumina's was a bit too big for a girl's hand I thought, but I'll do something with the design. The insides weren't any different than mine. Like the caliber.

It was relatively roughly made.... Just to have bullets fly out you could just as well have a silver bullet gun..... well, there's no reason to be so obsessed is there? They wanted to shoot the gun.

The dragon horn was further cut down for the girls' guns and then handed the guns over to them. I did tentatively「Program」them so that only they would be able to fire them.

I made about 100 rubber-coated, non-enchanted bullets and handed each of them half the bullets, and then they immediately started shooting them to get used to the sensation.

Because of the dragon horn it's lighter than a normal gun so they're easy for girls to use.

Now then, this where the real show starts. The gun to me is merely the foundation for my main weapon to be born.

「Modeling」

A pieces of the dragon's horn is cut once more and transformed into the shape of a gun once more. However, up until this point is the same, the difference is it has a shape of a gun but has a different purpose.

There is a blade that extends from the underside of the muzzle and in front of the trigger guard. The grip gradually forms a curve and the form is an overall straight-line. It looks more like a dagger than a gun.

The gun and knife combined. The blade is about 30 centimeters and is considerably thick. It was made to be pretty heavy.

「Program start

/ Activation: Owner states 「Blade Mode」「Gun mode」

/ Action content: Using 「Modeling」 the blade portion changes between dagger and long sword with high-velocity deformation.

/ Program End」

Additionally I used 「program」to add the original reload function. I reloaded the bullets and pulled the trigger. The bullet destroyed the tree branch followed by the report of the gun. Good, there is no problem with the gun function.

「Blade Mode」

Reacting to my command, the 30 cm blade instantly transforms into an 80 cm sword. The blade thins about 2/3, the blade was thick to allow for the expansion.

I wanted to show off with the long blade. It didn't feel heavy in the slightest.

「Gun Mode」

The blade returns to the former short, thick style. Good, the transformation function works as well.

「That's amazing, the sword can become a gun too?」

「Unlike the completely forward guards Elise and Yae, and you being

completely rear guards, I thought it be best if I could do both」

I gave a prepared answer to Yumina's question. Additionally, during the Beast King's fight, there was a time where I wasn't able to use magic so I thought I should find a way to deal with it is what I thought.

「...And, what is the name of that weapon?」

「That's right...how about「Brynhild」?」

I answered while smiling wryly at Lindsey's question. Rather than legendary weapon names like「Excalibur」or「Barumunk」, I preferred the name of the strongest weapon of my favorite retro game. It was really fun, that game.

With my newly obtained weapons, with Brynhild in hand, remembering the fantasy world I yearned for in my childhood, I now wield that sword and feel a renewed sense of just how troubled my life is.

Chapter 47: Ultra Spicy, and a White Mask

After the testing and 「programing」 experiment, I tested the durability of the blade mode.

Though I made and combined the parts the component's I didn't use 「Modeling」 on were basically one piece and integrated with and had the toughness of the dragon's horn. I was able to easily cut down a large tree. I wasn't able to experience this with a normal katana.

After that we returned to the area around the castle, I bought 3 leather knife sheaths, and I bought one large scabbard... and transformed them using 「modeling」 to make a holster for the guns. It's difficult to walk around with it as it is.

I bought three special waist pouches for bullets, because we're in town there isn't the fear of being attacked by a demon beast, although I had only given them rubber-coated 「Paralyze」 bullets. I had shells other than the rubber-coated bullets. If by chance I happen to be right next to Yumina when she needs to reload, she might possibly end up with some of my bullets....

I realized this and once again 「Programed」 everyone's gun. 「Bullet in the range that the speaker desires」 「Reload」 it came to be. Originally 「Aport」 was meant to be used like this.

For the remaining bullets what should I enchant them with? Lindsey had used 「Explosion」 at the ruins of the former capital but, the blast had been big enough to blow a mountain of rubble away making it extremely difficult to manipulate. If it's 「Fire ignition」 maybe... upon impact a fireball hits the target... this is a bit much too I think.

Well, for human targets 「Paralyze」 should be enough, even if they have a ward the rubber-coated bullets should cause considerable damage. I'll take time thinking about it later.

「We've come to the capital, so why don't we go eat something?」

「That's nice. I want to eat the local specialties of this country」

「...if I remember correctly 「Karae」 is the famous dish here」

「Curry」huh? You want eat with a theme huh? There was a stall selling it nearby, so let's take a look. On the signboard read 「Beef Karae」「Chicken Karae」「Pork cutlet Karae」as well as other things. Huh, this smell is.....

Yumina ordered Beef Karae, Lindsey ordered chicken karae, and I ordered pork cutlet karae...(For some reason Kohaku refused to eat it) and it was finally carried from the stall to the table where we were seated.

This color, this smell.....it's curry after all isn't it? There's no rice so there was no curry rice.

「Um you, know this is.....」

Probably spicy, is what I wanted to say, but the two girls had already shoved some into their mouths.

「「!?」」

Gata! They stand and cover their mouths, their eyes began to tear up. Yep it's spicy after all. I'd have been glad if it was a bit sweet. From their appearance it was considerably spicy.

The girls swiped the pitcher of water and began to drink cups of it as fast as they could. While looking at the scene I took a bite of my own but, it was pretty spicy. I was used to eating this, but for the two who it was their first time it had a mighty impact.

「It had terrible tashte.....」

「My tongue is burning.....」

Was it so hot that they couldn't articulate properly? Behind the Karae cart was a cart which sold fruit juice to get rid of the burning sensation.

「It's not bad once you get used to it」

「Touya-shan you've eaten Karae before?」

「Ah- I've eaten something that looks like it」

Yumina's articulation was still vague when she asked. Lindsey was drinking juice with ice in it and enjoying the pleasant sensation, while looking around. Which reminds me, there aren't many spicy foods in this world. Places like Belfast prefer sweet foods I think.....N?

While thinking about that, I felt the glance of someone and looked in that direction. Nn? This feeling..... it was the same one as before.....

《Master. Someone is looking at us. It's probably the ones that followed us before?》

Kohaku spoke to me through telepathy. I thought so.

《Those that had been watching us in the town of Langley huh.....
Alright, I'll go and pay my respects. Do you know where they are?》
《On the roof of the tallest building to master's right》

While giving the impression that I hadn't noticed I give the impression that I'm looking in the sky above that building. There certainly were three figures on the rooftop. It was considerably far though.

「I guess I should tentatively ready myself. 「Reload」」

I had loaded Brynhild with「Paralyze」rubber-coated bullets.

「Touya-san?」

It might be surprising for other people to see me suddenly reloading but explanations can wait for later.

《Kohaku protect these two》

《Please take care》

Alright, let's go.

「Boost」

I used body strengthening magic on myself and jumped. Just like that I jumped from building to building sideways and jumped over the rooftops as I went. I dashed from roof top to roof top and at last reached the mysterious group that had been observing from above.

「Yo」

「「!」」

The two that had been observing use were surprised at my light greeting, I think.

I said I think because I can't see their expressions. The pair were

wearing identical black outfits, and the little bit I could see under the robe were black clothes as well. And under the hood was a white mask that hid their faces. There were strange patterns drawn on the forehead. I thought they were both identical but one had a hexagon and the other had an oval pattern.

「Etto, do you understand me? I was hoping you would tell me who you ar—e」

Suddenly, the person with the hexagon throws a small tube at their feet. It created a terrible flash.

「Ku...!」

When my eyes recovered from the flash there was no one there. They ran away? Not gonna happen. I took out the smartphone and searched for 「Suspicious masked people」. There they are. They ran up the back alley to the north. I can still catch up to them.

「Accelerated boost!」

Super-accelerated by magic, I ran along the rooftops. The scenery blew by extremely fast, and before I knew it I saw the backs of the two as they ran in the back alley, I was able to catch them from the roof.

I took a roundabout path and jumped down in front of them.

「「!?」」

Well they're masked so I think they're surprised. However the hexagon instantly shoves their hand in their chest top like before to try and take out a tube. Otto, not this time!(TLN: Otto means woops but woops is just so plain so I'm leaving it)

Without hesitation, I pulled out the gunblade Brynhild aimed at the masked person trying to take out the tube and pulled the trigger.

The hexagon crumbled with the tort of the gun. Apparently they don't have a paralysis charm. While I looked at the hexagon that had fallen, the oval one looks from me to the hexagon at a loss of what to do and not missing that chance another gun report resounded in the alley again.

「Now then. What to do.」

I used 「modeling」made some wire and attached them to a wall in the back on the alley. It's fine to unmask them but 「Paralyze」only keeps them from moving but they remain conscious. It would be the worst if it was something like「It's against the family's law to remain alive after having my face seen」or「You've seen my face so I will definitely kill you」

「I'll remove the paralysis now, so stay quiet, k?」

Looking into the eyes of the pair, I concentrated magic while speaking

「Recovery」

The masked persons were wrapped in a soft light. With this the paralysis should have disappeared from the pair. Now then, it would be nice if they were to say something.

「And, who are you guys? Why were you observing us?」

「.....」

Umumu, the right to remain silent huh?

Was the wire digging into them painful? The hexagon person stirred. No, they might have been trying something to escape. That flash from before or something to rust the wire was troublesome. Did they have tools as a precaution?

I put my hand on the chest of the hexagon.

「Hiyaa!?!」

The hexagon gave a lovely shout, *munyon*, and the sensation of something soft met my hand. Once I understood what it was, my whole body broke out in a cold sweat.

「Wo-, wo- you're a woman!?!」

The hexagon give a slight nod. I took my hand away quickly but the soft sensation still remained on it. This is bad. I think my face is read. Huh, but that voice.....didn't I hear it from somewhere.....? At that moment, where my hand had just hit? The hexagon patterned

mask made a tap as it fell to the ground. From beneath, emerged the face of a woman I know.

「Eh!? Lapis-san?」

While blushing, the maid, that should have been in the Belfast Capital, gave a small nod again.

Chapter 48: The Maids' Circumstances, and the Summit

「We are 「Esupion」. Intelligence officers under the direct command of His Majesty the King of Belfast」

「His Majesty the King?」

「Yes. We were assigned as protection for the Princess」

It makes sense coming from Lapis-san's explanation. Being the Princess of the country I thought it was an extremely noninterference policy, but it's that huh? Protect Yumina from the shadows?

Well I did hear some noises from the ceiling in「The Silver Moon」..... I thought it was just some rats but it was probably Lapis' group. 「Esupion」is something like a garden watchmen or spy?

「Are you two the only guards?」

「No~. There are several others~. They're all girls though~」

The other housemaid responds to that question and Cecil-san removes her mask and shows a tensionless smile. They're all girls? Well if they're sneaking around in the walls, I need to think about privacy and changing, that would be more preferable.

「I mean, the entire time? Since Belfast?」

「It's our duty after all」

「Which reminds me, when I went back with 「Gate」to the house you two weren't there. And, that was a conspiracy with Lyme-san?」

「That's right~」

They successfully fooled me huh? I really want to hear if the story about belonging to the housemaid guild is true. It was a necessary skill for going undercover... almost all of the 「Esupion」girls were members.

「Ah, then could it be that when we were fighting against the black dragon the one that threw the knife was...」

「That was Cecil. She's a knife throwing expert」

「Ehehehe~ It's not that great」

Cecil-san blushes when looked at. This fluffy person huh...? You really can't judge a person by their attitude.

「What do you plan to do hereafter?」

「We'll keep guarding Yumina-sama from the shadows...but, master we have one request.....」

Lapis-san hesitates to speak while looking at me. Will you stop with the master bit please.....

「Please keep our identity a secret from the princess please.....」

Aa, protecting from the shadows while having your identity exposed is certainly bad huh?

「If the fact that we're protecting the princess is exposed~ the princess will be angry at the King you know~」

That reason huh...? Well, it would be like telling your daughter you trust her, sending her off, but not actually trusting her at all.

Well, it's not a difficult thing to keep it a secret. For the time being, I separate from the pair, and return to Yumina.

I told the circumstances to Kohaku via telepathy but, lied to Yumina and Lindsey saying 「They got away」Actually, they did get away using that flash powder. The girls let out a mysterious face, I somehow deceive them, and then we returned to the castle that day.

The next day, for the purpose of ally conference between Belfast and Misumido, the two Kings met.

Because it was the summit, there was a bit of a dispute as to who was going to go where. In the end, the Belfast king come to Misumido, at the same time was transported in full view of the conference room.

In the conference on our side was Lyon-san, my group and the knights that had come from Belfast, on Misumido's side was, the Beast King-heika and Prime Minister Graz-san, along with sever of the warrior squad, the wolf demi-human Garun-san.

Upon the mirror I opened 「Gate」, from within, the His Majesty the

king and his younger brother Duke Olutorinde.

No one was able to hide their surprise at the fact that two people came through the mirror, of course that was only a moment, and as a matter of course the kings of each respective country met each other.

「Welcome to Misumido, King of Belfast」

「We wish to express our gratitude for inviting us, King of Misumido」

Each shakes the others hand. With this it became a discussion between countries and we being outsiders left the room.

I excuse myself into the corridor. Only wishes that the conference goes well remain.

And coming from the hallway came the unsteady steps of the walking teddy bear, Pola along with Rin. And as usual wearing those black goth loli clothes.

「It looks as if the King of Belfast has come」

「Un, just now. They're in the middle of the conference right now」

While pointing at the door with guards standing to the right or left of the door, Rin responds.

「And, have any desire to become my apprentice?」

「I already said I don't wanna」

Since that time Rin had persistently tried to get me to become an apprentice. In the end she said I should become a temporary apprentice. Wait, isn't that below an apprentice?

The nearby Pola gestured 「Come here!」in invitation.

「Even still Pola is so lively even though it's just a teddy....It's as if he's alive」

「That because I gave him that kind of program. For almost 200 years it's don't various things on its own. Even a human will cry if they get hurt, you'd get angry if you were made fun of would you?」

200 years huh? The countless accumulated programs naturally gave birth to this?

If I were to make a human looking doll with 「Modeling」and gave it a 「Program」wouldn't it be something like a mock android? Is what I

thought but... it'll take 200 years.... I can't just copy Pola's「Program」you know.

After staring it doubtingly, Pola stepped back a little. It was also 「Programed」to do this as well.

「By the way, Pola has been running for 200 years but it doesn't look even the least bit old. Did you remake it?」

「No. I used my no-attribute magic「Protection」on it. It gives some objects a degree of protection. Regardless if it's dirt, deterioration, or bugs, Pola will be unaffected.」

Protection magic huh? But for it to remain in this state for 200 years is amazing. If you were to put it on clothes then they wouldn't need washing. If you were to put it on the body then you wouldn't need a bath but.....I think something would end. Even if there wasn't any dirt, it gives the feeling of renewal.

「I mean, Rin can use several no-attribute magic spells. 「Protection」 and 「Program」, as well as the one from Charlotte-san 「Transfer」 as well?

「The fairy clan's aptitude for no attribute magic is high. Instead it would be better to say that there aren't any of the fairy clan that can't use no-attribute magic. Even still I can only use 4.」

It could be called good if a person could only use a single no-attribute magic but to be able to use four? That's amazing. Well, I'm in no position to say that? The one remaining no-attribute magic of Rin's interests me.

「Touya-dono. The King of Belfast is calling. This way」

The door to the conference room is open and from within appear the face of the Prime Minister Graz-san. I enter as summoned and the two kings look at me.

「Touya-dono. The talks ended without delay, thank you.」

「That's great」

I felt relieved at the King of Belfast's words. With this my work is almost complete.

「Well then, we shall return to Belfast. I'll leave the rest to you. King

of Misumido, excuse us」

After the light farewell, I secretly used 「Gate」 and the two people disappeared into the mirror again. After the two people had left, I rushed into action after I had finished making arrangements. I took out a hammer in the presence of everyone, and smashed the mirror to pieces.

「To- Touya-dono!? Just what are you...!？」

「Aa- it's alright. Please watch」

I turned my back on Graz-san and concentrated on the heap of broken mirror parts and wooden crates and used magic.

「Modeling」

The broken mirror and wooden crate transformed into a pair of small oblong mirrors. About 2 cm in width and 15 cm in length. Then I secretly enchanted one of them with 「Gate」

「This mirror here will be connected with the one in Belfast. Hereafter, when there is something of importance then insert a letter here and it will be received there. (Snail e-mail) Ah, of course, if you were wondering if this is a genuine article you can send a document to through to the other side.

「Indeed. What would otherwise take 20 days to report would be reported in an instant? That is certainly convenient. We shall have both countries use these very much.

When the Beast King-heika received the small mirror, he smiled. My job ends with this.

Alright then, shall we go home? Even though I received it, I haven't lived in it at all. I want to slow down for a little after this.

Chapter 49: Return Home, and the Happening

For the time being, Lyon-san and his group of soldiers are being were being stationed here it seems. If for anything, after this there was a lot of work that needed to be done and work would stagnate if there were no people from Belfast for the formalities.

As being Yumina's guards, it would be best to return to Belfast, one soldier piped up but Yumina flatly refused it. Under the pretext, do your own work.

While in reality, we were going to use 「Gate」to return in an instant, if they were to come it would be a problem.

While leaving I gave Lyon-san a letter gate mirror (I just named it) set. Even if they're far apart you would be able to send correspondence every day. If you were to hand one to Olga-san they could contact each other even after returning to Belfast. Upon handing it over Lyon-san had very high tension. Honestly, I pulled back a little.

The Beast King-heika, Prime Minister Graz-san, Olga-san and Warrior Chief bid their farewells. I wanted to bid Rin and Pola farewell but they were absent. It's unfortunate but it can't be helped. After leaving the castle, I purchased souvenirs for Sue and the employees at the residence and collected all the luggage. All that remains is to open the 「Gate」and return to Belfast.....

「Sorry, I forgot a souvenir」

I refused the invitation from everyone and while in town I mingled with people and then while hiding myself, I opened the map app and searched for the pair. N-to, that roof over there, huh? Using 「Boost」I moved up on the roof in an instant and appeared before the pair.

「!？」

「Fuwa!? Aa, master?~ Don't surprise me like that~」

The pair wearing masks were Lapis-san and Cecil-san. They're our

maids, but they're really under direct control of Yumina's Father His Majesty the King of Belfast.

The girls had forcibly asked Lyme-san to be employed and honestly, I thought I wouldn't need to pay them a salary, but they do their work as maids well so it's fine.

Well, I won't be paying their salaries for the last 10 days though. I'd like them to file a claim with the king about that charge.

「After this we're using 「Gate」 to return home. I thought it best to send you two home first」

They've been observing me this entire time so 「Gate」 had probably already been exposed. I spoke as if the two already knew of it.

「Hoe? To Belfast~?」

「Certainly if we were to remain here it would take us 10 days to return as well right...? It would certainly be a cause of doubt for the Princess.」

「That what I thought so I came here」

I opened 「Gate」 while smiling wryly. I brought the two through the light and we were already in the Belfast mansion living room.

「Welcome home」

Nearby was my butler Lyme-san who was slightly surprised at our sudden appearance, he quickly composed himself and began speaking.

「I'm back, Lyme-san」

「I'm home~」

「Excuse me, master already found out about us」

「I see that」

Lapis-san states the obvious to which Lyme-san on the other hand can only smile wryly to.

For the time being I had the pair change into their maid uniforms, and they couldn't exactly do it here so they went to the changing room. While the pair head that direction Lyme-san bowed his head.

「I apologize. Those two had been ordered here by the King his Majesty.....」

「Well, I understand being worried about his daughter, there wasn't any harm so it's fine. Lyme-san couldn't really refuse right?」

Betrayal of the master of the house! Is not what I had intended. I wasn't in that kind of mood either. Well if it had been at the threat of my life or had it been a great loss then it would be a different story, but this time I don't think they had been ordered to do that this time. Instead shouldn't it be that the number of guards has increased..... nope impossible.

「Well, I'm tentatively keeping it a secret from Yumina and the others」

After that, I returned to the others to return home once more, and asked them to act as if I was returning for the first time.

「So- slow! What were you doing?」

I opened「Gate」on the roof top in Misumido and while returning to everyone, Elsie complained angrily. I glossed it over with something convenient, and in an alley with no others, I once again opened 「Gate」

Upon returning to the living room of our home, Lyme-san was waiting for us with head bowed.

「Welcome home」

When Lapis-san and Cecil-san hear Lyme-san's second greeting, the door opens and the pair come in in their maid uniforms.

「Everyone, welcome home」

「Welcome home」

「I'm home. Lapis-san, Cecil-san」

We nonchalantly greet each other. Everyone returns to their own room, and apparently head off to the bath to get rid of the travel fatigue. I guess I'll get in later.

Before that I handed souvenir's over to everyone.

I gave a tiepin and cuff links to Lyme-san and off shade tea cups to Lapis-san and Cecil-san. Although the two said they could not receive it, because not handing them over looks strange, I forcibly made them take them.

For Julio-san and Clair-san I bought a straw-hat and cookbook. And, a married couples tea set. I gave decorated knives to the guard duo Tom and Huck respectively. I'll give Sue her souvenir at a later date. I fell onto my bed in my room spread eagle. But that was tiring. While being from physical fatigue, it was unexpectedly mentally taxing to travel around an unknown land. Well, when I think about it this world is an unknown land.

But there are many ideas that come to me as a result of the trip. For instance, would it be possible to send something enchanted with 「Gate」 over to Ishen, and then go over there... Why not try and build and program an automatic carriage? But first I should try and build a bicycle. It would stand out. After that I could program the map app to have an auto-target function. I thought of the many things I could do.

After that, how about a automated Pola? Maybe I can build something like that. A penguin or cat stuffed animal.....fua.....I'm sleepy.....

.....Oya? Bad. Did I fall asleep for a little while? I'm more tired than I thought. Falling asleep without changing huh? I feel heavy. I should head over to for a bath and relax in the hot water.

I took a pair of spare underwear, a bath towel from the dresser and headed toward the first floor bathroom.

Our bathtub is big enough that 5 or 6 adults could sit in it. It's a bit big of a bathroom. Everyone else is a girl so they usually get in together, I get to hog it all to myself. With Lyme-san and myself being the only men, it's inevitable. I don't feel like getting in with Lyme-san.

「Well, it's one of the joys of luxury you might say」

While in good humor I reach the bathroom and open the dressing room with a gatcha.

「「「「Eh?」」」」

「.....Huh?」

.....Etto, right in front of me were Elsie, Lindsey, Yae and Yumina, all in their underwear. Elsie and Lindsey's were a matching off-shade pastel with small ribbons in different colors. Elsie's is pink, Lindsey's

is blue. They were the side tie string type. Next to them was Yae, who wore a loin cloth and chest binding. Is that the standard in Ishen? It was a dazzling pure white. The bleached cloth of the chest binding had just started to loosen but it had loosened in a big way. The last one was Yumina, they weren't showy but they were expensive looking frilly with lace white underwear, hers also had a side tie string like Elsie's did. That might be the most general type in this world.....there was only a short moment to ponder this. I hadn't used I don't remember having used「Acell」

「「「「Kya—————!!!!?」」」」
「Wa—————!!!?」

When everyone screamed I finally returned to myself, it was a terribly loud scream after all. Did I just stare with wild abandon at them!?

Watery eyed Elsie shot toward me with her fist. Umm Elsie-san that doesn't have 「Boost」 does it?

I received a terrible impact on the side of my head, I passed out.

「We certainly forgot to lock the door to the dressing room, for that we were wrong but!」

「You should have been more careful degozaru」

I am surrounded by four people, in the seiza position. From a while ago they've been preaching at me non-stop.

「I was sure that you girls had already finished.....」

Apparently after everyone went to their rooms they all fell asleep. When they awoke they hurried to the bathroom and ended up gathering, and had just take off their clothing when I had come. What a bad.....Well, it wasn't really was it?

「Did you reflect?」

「Eh? Ah, yes!」

Lindsey stares at me with her scornful eyes. Because she's usually obedient, there is a strange compulsion.

「I would have liked if you had taken the proper steps first properly.....」

Steps you say, Yumina-san. Don't say such unnecessary thing while blushing. Well I had been more careful I could have avoided, but it's true that I did deliberately look at them. But I'm in no position to make excuses.....

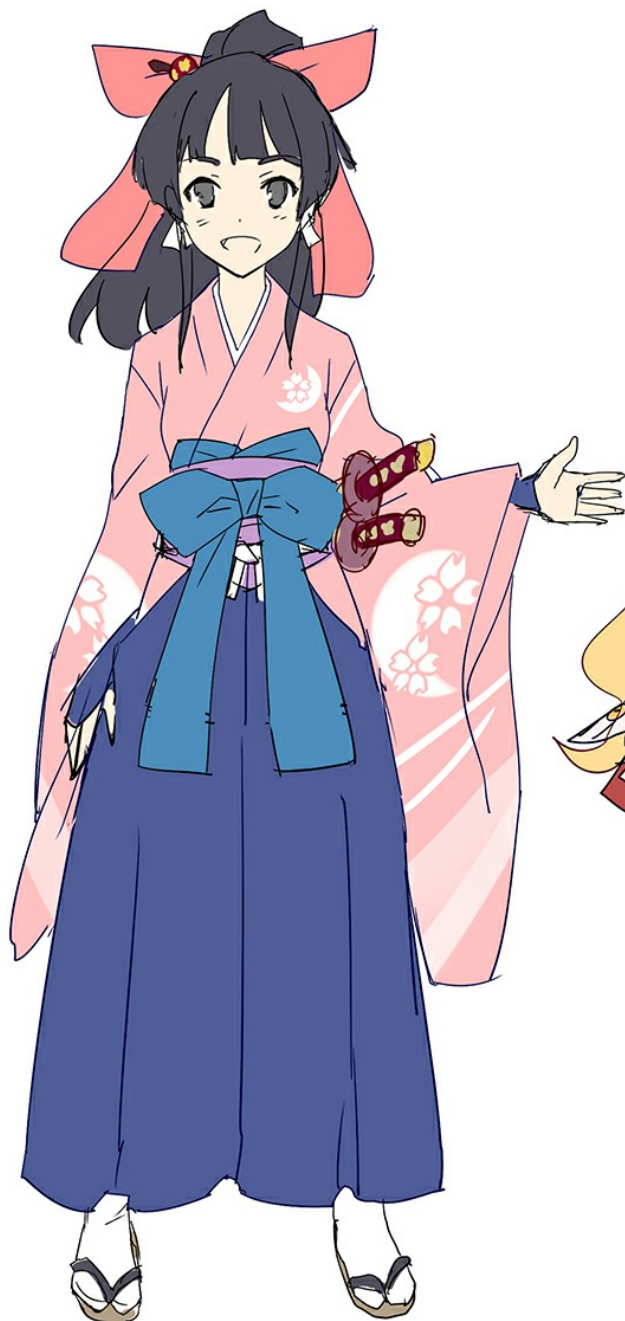
After that they continued to preach at me, it was long after midnight that I was finally liberated. That night, I was completely unable to sleep. Every time I closed my eyes I saw them.....It hurt, but it was a nice day!

Illustrations





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